

Heartland Genealogy Blog Posts

August 2024

Marcia Crawford Philbrick



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AI to Improve Writing

Have you used any AI (Artificial Intelligence) tools? If you are a regular reader of this blog or follow Randy Seaver's [Genea-Musings](https://www.geneamusings.com/) See <https://www.geneamusings.com/>, blog, then you are aware that some of us are having fun 'playing' with AI to learn how it can help with our genealogy research.

As a retired educator, I see the challenges teachers will face when students use these tools. While my knowledge of how to use these tools is limited, I am finding them very helpful. After a recent conversation with Seneca's chamber and tourism promoter where she said she uses AI to help write press releases, I decided to ask [ChatGPT](https://chatgpt.com/) See <https://chatgpt.com/>, for help writing a letter.

This letter is being sent to the [Pauly Jail Building Company](https://www.paulyjail.com/) See <https://www.paulyjail.com/>, requesting that the historic jail and sheriff's residence in Nemaha County, Kansas be added to their list of Historic Jail Projects on their [Legacy](https://www.paulyjail.com/legacy) See <https://www.paulyjail.com/legacy>, page.

Below is the original text of my letter:

I am writing to ask that the historic Jail and Sheriffs residence in Nemaha County, Kansas be added to your list of Historic Jail Projects on the Legacy page of your website.

The jail has two different sets of Pauly cells. The cells on the main floor are original to the 1879 building. In 1907, the jail was remodeled. The remodeling included the addition of a second set of cells on the second floor. Both sets of cells have brass plates identifying Pauly patents. In 2004, the jail and attached sheriff's residence was added to the National Register of Historic Places.

In 1973, the county built a new jail and discontinued use of the sheriff's residence and jail. The building is now part of the Nemaha County Historical Society. As part of our efforts to preserve this historic structure, we have shared some of the original documents on our website (<http://nemahacountyhistoricalsociety.com/residence-jail>). Many of these documents help document our Pauly jail cells.

- 1879 P. J. Pauly Bid
- 1789 P. J. Pauly Contract
- 1879 P. J. Pauly Bond
- 1879 Jail Specifications
- 1879 Specifications for Residence and Jail – signed by P J Pauly

Enclosed are copies of these web pages to support our request to be added to your legacy page.

Thank you for considering our request.

My request to ChatGPT was simple.

"Can you improve the following letter?" (followed by the text from my letter)

While very similar, ChatGPT's response did improve the quality of the writing in the letter.

I am writing to request that the historic Jail and Sheriff's Residence in Nemaha County, Kansas, be added to the list of Historic Jail Projects on the Legacy page of your website.

The Nemaha County Jail features two distinct sets of Pauly cells. The cells on the main floor are original to the building, constructed in 1879. In 1907, a remodeling project added a second set of cells on the second floor. Both sets of cells bear brass plates identifying Pauly patents. In 2004, the jail and attached sheriff's residence were added to the National Register of Historic Places.

After a new jail was built in 1973, the county discontinued the use of the original sheriff's residence and jail. The building now serves as part of the Nemaha County Historical Society. As part of our preservation efforts, we have shared original documents on our website (<http://nemahacountyhistoricalsociety.com/residence-jail>), many of which document our Pauly jail cells, including:

- 1879 P. J. Pauly Bid
- 1879 P. J. Pauly Contract
- 1879 P. J. Pauly Bond
- 1879 Jail Specifications
- 1879 Specifications for Residence and Jail – signed by P. J. Pauly

Enclosed are copies of these web pages to support our request for inclusion on your legacy page.

Thank you for considering our request. We believe that featuring the Nemaha County Jail and Sheriff's Residence on your website will help in our ongoing efforts to preserve this important historical structure.

So, I am using the ChatGPT version of the letter to send to the Pauly Jail Building Company.

Friday Find

From my MINNICK files

Do you have photocopies from books that indexed county records in your files? As I was going thru my MINNICK files for today's Friday Finds, I came across photocopies from a book published by the Henry County, Illinois, Genealogy Society.

At the front of the book is a section containing tombstone inscriptions from the Old Kewanee Public Cemetery. My third great-grandfather, John Minnick, his wife Elizabeth, brother Peter W and son Wilson J are listed in this cemetery.

LN	FN	NEE	BORN	DIED	AGE	RELATIONSHIP	INFORMATION	WAR
MILLER	JAMES	—		15 JUN 1893	73Y	H/O JANE L.		
MILLER	JANE L.	—		16 OCT 1906	79Y 3M 3D	W/O JAMES		
MILLER	JENNIE		06 DEC 1865	16 FEB 1867				
MILLER	LIANE	BENTON	1863	1946		W/O W. E. MILLER	MILES LOT	
MILLER	PETER T.	—		1868?				
MINNICK	ELIZABETH	—		JUL 1869	53Y	W/O JOHN		
MINNICK	JOHN	—		21 AUG 1903?	80Y	H/O ELIZABETH		
MINNICK	PETER W.	—		16 DEC 1856?		NEXT TO ANNA E. STONE	STONE BROKEN/UNDER SOD	
MINNICK	WILSON J.		1844	15 JAN 1914				CW
MITTON	EDGAR P.		1859	1940				
MITTON	RACHEL		1868	1935				
MOORE	ALGENETTE	MERRITT	1844	1922		W/O JOHN		
MOORE	JOHN		1842	1904		H/O ALGENETTE MERRITT		

Death Index Prior to 1916 Henry County, Illinois. (Kewanee, IL: Henry County Genealogical Society p.12 Old Kewanee Public Cemetery Tombstone Inscriptions

The bulk of the book is a transcription of the death index for Henry county, Illinois.

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FULL NAME	RESIDENCE	DATE OF DEATH		AGE	PAGE
		MONTH	DAY		
Minleum Peter	Kewanee	Nov	3 1906	4	381
Minard David	Annsman	Nov	27 1879	1	40
Minch Clyde	Yorktown	Feb	1 1879	1	25
Minch John	Yorktown	Feb	15 1914	6	432
Miner Arthur	Kewanee	Mar	21 1913	6	306
Miner Harrison	Kewanee	May	29 1913	6	327
Miner Lucy	Kewanee	Nov	5 1909	5	159
Minch Joe	Kewanee	Mar	1 1907	4	431
Minch Steven	Kewanee	Jan	18 1907	4	421
Mink Miriam	Galva	Mar	31 1915	6	567
Mink Clara	Kewanee	Jan	6 1881	1	60
Mink Otfred	Kewanee	Nov	15 1914	6	522
Mink Louisa	Wethersfield	Apr	27 1912	6	224
Mink Louis Albert	Kewanee	June	25 1903	3	93
Minnert Nell	Atkinson	July	18 1892	1	198
Minnick John	Kewanee	Apr	21 1903	3	17
Minnick Wilson J.	Kewanee	Jan	15 1914	6	419
Minkl Glen	Henry Co. Infirmary	Sept	27 1905	4	287
Micorowski Cheslan	Kewanee	Aug	7 1907	4	487
Mirk Joe	Kewanee	May	24 1908	5	9
Mitchell Helanora	Kewanee	Dec	23 1912	6	277
Mitchell Horace	Colona	July	12 1879	1	33

Death Index Prior to 1916 Henry County, Illinois. (Kewanee, IL: Henry County Genealogical Society p. 166.

Since FamilySearch has digitized most of the U.S. county records, I searched the catalog to see if the original index was available on FamilySearch. And I found the death index book as item 3 on film 1435940. The Minnick entries are on image 449.

INDEX TO DEATHS--HENRY COUNTY

FULL NAME	RESIDENCE	DATE OF DEATH				PAGE NO.
		MONTH	DAY	YEAR	AGE	
Minicun, Peter	Kewanee	Nov	3	1906	4	381
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Miner, Harrison	Kewanee	May	29	1913	6	327
Miner, Lucy	Kewanee	Nov	5	1909	5	159
Minich, Joe	Kewanee	Mar	1	1907	4	431
Minich, Steven	Kewanee	Jan	14	1907	4	421
Mink, Miriam	Galva	Mar	31	1915	6	567
Minks, Clara	Kewanee	Jan	6	1881	1	60
Minks, Gottfred	Kewanee	Nov	15	1914	6	522
Minks, Louise	Wethersfield	Apr	27	1912	6	224
Minks, Louis Albert	Kewanee	June	25	1903	3	93
Minnert, Nell	Atkinson	July	18	1892	1	198
Minnick, John	Kewanee	Apr	21	1903	3	17
Minnick, Wilson J.	Kewanee	Jan	15	1914	6	419
Minnick, Clara	Henry Co. Infirmary	Sept	27	1905	4	287

Illinois, Henry County. Henry County, Il. Death Index. Film #1435940 item 3; DGS 7611619. John Minnick, 21 Apr 1903; image 449 of 788; digitized images, FamilySearch <http://www.familysearch.org> See <http://www.familysearch.org/> : viewed online 26 July 2024.

Even though this is just an index of the death records, it does support the death date and place found in several other records.

Saturday Tidbits

Have you ever wondered what was happening with the U.S. military during February 1941? Even though we weren't in war, many young men were either volunteering to serve in the armed forces or were being drafted to serve. Today's tidbit comes from the front pages of the Feb. 27, 1941 and March 3, 1941 issues of the Courier Tribune (Seneca, Kansas).

Army Accepts All But One Gerald Wempe's Hearing Defective

All the 14 young men who went to Fort Leavenworth early Monday morning for examination preparatory to induction in the U. S. army were accepted but one, the exception being Gerald Wempe, who was found to have defective hearing.

"There were reports here Tuesday that Herman J. Engel, Goff, and Bob Adriance, Seneca, might not be accepted but these were disproved Wednesday morning when official notice was received by the draft board that 13 out of the 14 were approved.

A card from Bob Adriance stated the selectees get only three hours' notice before they are sent to other camps. He thought it possible the contingent might leave Leavenworth late this week.

Gerald Wempe, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Wempe, Seneca, was not long in finding that he would not be accepted for service. Gerald was back home Monday afternoon, turned down because of defective hearing in his left ear.

Gerald previously had applied for service in the Navy and was rejected for the same reason. He is assisting his father in farm work and can now proceed with the satisfaction that he did his part; that it is not his fault he was refused.

Gerald said the Nemaha contingent was met at the train by truck and taken to quarters. Physical examinations got under way the same day.

The draft board is not able to say just how Wempe's place will be filled. James E. Severin, Baileyville, and Louis Grollmes, Seneca, are volunteers. Grollmes has not yet taken his local medical examination. One colored boy Donald C. Davis, is to go in the March contingent. If a call for replacement is received before the order for March comes in, Severin probably will be chosen.

Courier Tribune
27 Feb 1941
page 1

Get News of the Draftees

Are Assigned Quickly

Ten to Camp Robinson,
Two to Ft. Knox
More Volunteers Here

News about Nemaha county draftees is pouring in from all sides this week.

From the reception center at Ft. Leavenworth comes word that 12 of the 13 men sent from Nemaha county and accepted there last week have been assigned to camps.

Ten of the 13 left Thursday for Camp Joseph T. Robinson, Arkansas. Two were sent the same day to Fort Knox, Kentucky.

The men sent to Camp Robinson and the general heading of their units are as follows:

To the 137th Infantry: William G. Rucker, Wetmore; Vernet H. Randel, Corning.

To the signal company, 35th division, Edward J. Vogel of Bern; Leonard Talley of Centralia; William Flaherty of Havensville; Homer Turner of Oneida; Francis Block of Seneca; Herman Engel of Wetmore.

To the 161st field artillery at Camp Robinson: Elmer Walter Allen, of Corning and Lloyd Frederickson of Corning.

Sent to Fort Knox, Kentucky, both men to be attached to the First Armored Division, are Cyril F. Olberding of Baileyville and Clarence R. Hazlett of Onaga.

Bob Adriance, Seneca, was the only one left in Leavenworth of the contingent. He has asked for assignment as a photographic specialist and this may be the reason he is held back.

On the Home Front

Seneca—The Nemaha county draft board has a March call to furnish two men, one colored. Both positions are being filled by volunteers. James Severin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Severin, Baileyville address, will leave this Wednesday. The call for a colored youth was filled Sunday by Donald Davis, Sabetha.

Three Seneca men are new volunteers to serve their year ahead of turn and will be the first men to go on next calls. They are George H. Joyce; Louis Grollmes; Dick Moore. Moore is not a native Nemaha county youth but has been employed here in the National Farm loan association office and so registered here.

Reception Center Is Spick and Span

It is still the army but what an improvement over the early days of 1917 when Elmer joined up at Camp Funston and drilled for a month in blue denims and then was issued clothing too large or too small for him!

Nineteen-forty-one's selected service men are neatly fitted in serge O. D. and gone are the stiff collars and the sloppy wrap leggings.

Mr. and Mrs. George C. Adriance and Miss Johanna Lierz called on Bob Adriance at the Reception Center at Leavenworth Friday and

Column 4

Sunday. The recruit said he had gained five pounds in his first week of service.

The men do little or no drilling at Leavenworth. They get their uniforms and "shots" and frequently are sent to permanent camps within just a few days. The boys spend their spare time on detail. They police the grounds for cigarette butts and matches; work on the camp roads and prepare the ground for spring seeding. Other squads are on barracks duty, scrubbing every inch of the woodwork daily. The men are not allowed bunk fatigue until four o'clock so they sit on the floor when they get tired of standing. The floor is clean enough to eat from if that were necessary. As a matter of fact, eating is the best thing the recruits are doing right now and the chow is both plentiful and good. Guests of recruits are permitted to eat with them in a special dining hall where the meals are served on aluminum platters, subdivided so that food does not all run together like it does in the regular army mess kit. However, the selectees in the main camp mess hall still use the old kit. Sunday's meal featured baked ham, mashed potatoes, lima beans, lettuce salad, applesauce, wafers, and ice cream. Yes, there are seconds.

The boys early get a taste of discipline. They have to get the first sergeant's permission to speak to the C.O. They still address officers in the third person.

Note: Recruits seen about camp are a fine looking bunch of men; maybe it is because the uniform is such an improvement over World War days.

Courier Tribune
3 March 1941
page 1

GET NEWS OF THE DRAFTEES

ARE ASSIGNED QUICKLY

Ten to Camp Robinson,
Two to Ft. Knox;
More Volunteers Here

Saturday Night Genealogy Fun

Calling all [Genea-Musings](https://www.geneamusings.com/) See <https://www.geneamusings.com/>. Fans:

It's Saturday Night again –

Time for some more Genealogy Fun See <https://www.geneamusings.com/2024/08/saturday-night-genealogy-fun-create.html>!!

Come on, everybody, join in and accept the mission and execute it with precision.

1) Have you created a Kinship List for any of your ancestors or relatives in your genealogy software program? If so, select an Ancestor – say, one of your great-grandparents, and create a Kinship List of all of their descendants. Or another ancestor further back in time.

2) Show us your work – how you did it, and the Kinship List generated (at least one page of it).

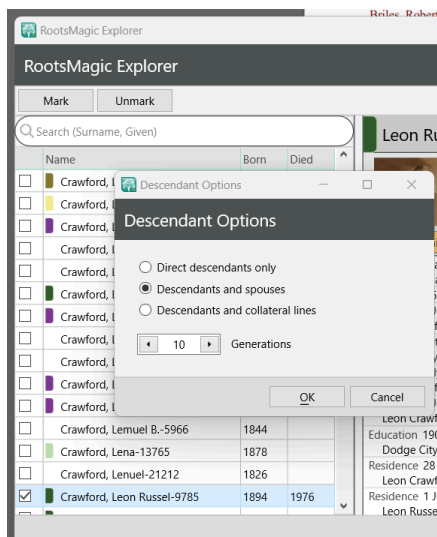
This is the first time I've worked with a 'Kinship' Report. Thanks to Randy, I had directions to follow!

Randy's comment at the end of his post caught my attention:

Since Kinship usually includes siblings' spouses and their siblings, and usually includes spouses with their parents and siblings, this Kinship Report doesn't really include persons that many researchers would consider Kin. It needs an option to include families of siblings and families of a spouse's siblings and parents and grandparents within several generations.

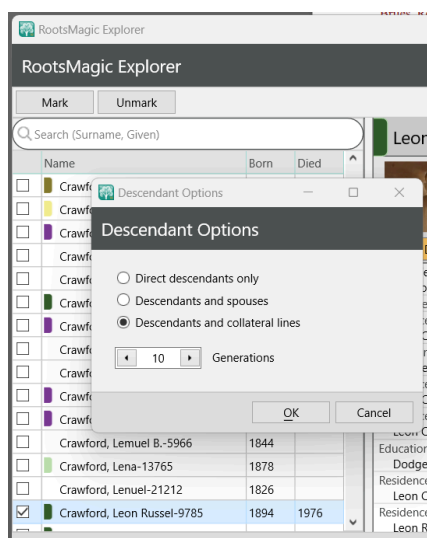
Out of curiosity, I tried changing the selection settings to see if I could generate a report showing siblings and their spouses. For this experimentation, I wanted a short list. Thus, I used my grandfather since only one of his children survived to have children.

My first attempt was to select Descendants and spouses.



That list included all of the descendants of my grandfather and all of the spouses.

I then tried a selection based on 'Descendants and Collateral Lines'.



That report added my grandmother's siblings.

Currey, Alma Jean-511	sister-in-law
Currey, Earnest Oran-510	brother-in-law
Currey, Henry-505	brother-in-law
Currey, Herbert Miles-506	brother-in-law
Currey, Hiram-507	brother-in-law
Currey, Hiram Miles-502	father-in-law
Currey, Infant-504	brother-in-law
Currey, Mary Lela-509	sister-in-law
Currey, Myrtle Irene-508	sister-in-law
Currey, Winnie Letha-9786	spouse

However, it did not contain my grandfather's siblings.

Curious as to a definition of collateral lines, I did a google search for "genealogy collateral lines".

AI Overview

[Learn more](#)

In genealogy, a collateral line is **a line of descent that connects people who share a common ancestor but are not in a direct line of descent**. Collateral relatives are the extended family of direct ancestors, and include siblings of parents or grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, and in-laws. ^

Since I was looking for a more specific answer, I again searched google for the following: "in genealogy, do collateral lines include siblings". And Google's AI responded.

AI Overview

[Learn more](#)

Yes, siblings are considered collateral relatives in genealogy, along with their offspring. Collateral relatives are people who share a common ancestor but are not directly related through a line of descent, such as parents and children. Other examples of collateral relatives include aunts, uncles, and cousins. ^

I then checked the RootsMagic Users Facebook group for clarification on how RootsMagic defines a collateral line. The first post I found was a direct question with a response similar to the AI definition of collateral lines.



P

May 20, 2016 · 🌐

...

When you mark a group in RootsMagic, you can select a person's "ancestors and all collateral lines" or "descendants and collateral lines." Exactly what are collateral lines?

👍 5

9 comments

👍 Like

💬 Comment

📧 Send


Most applicable ▼



F [redacted] Top contributor

A blood relative who is not your ancestor. So your parents siblings and their descendants, your grandparents siblings and their descendants, etc.


Digging further on Facebook, I found a similar post from 2023. In the comments to that post was a reponse by someone who has helped me a lot with RM issues.

 **Top contributor**

I know what the dictionary definition of "collateral line" is, but when I run "ancestors and all collateral lines" in RM then I have no idea what is supposed to happen.

It certainly includes all generations of ancestors and descendants without being bounded by the number of generations. It certainly includes all the spouses of all the ancestors and descendants. But it includes more people than just that. It's almost like it's doing the exact same thing as the "Mark Everyone in Highlighted Person's Tree" option.

I couldn't find any documentation for RM7 or RM8 that's at all enlightening.

 2

When I searched the RootsMagic Community, I couldn't find any post that would help clarify this. So, I submitted a question.

(Note: When I tried to create a Kinship report for a different grandfather and selected descendants and collateral lines, it included his great grandmothers back as far as I have data. Changing the generation count did not impact the appearance of these 'greats' in the report.)

While I'm now confused about what it means to select 'Descendants and collateral lines', I want to thank Randy for making me try a new report!

James Crawford Will

Have you ever encountered a will that identifies quite a few family members to only discover that online trees don't match the will? As I'm searching records in Montgomery, Boutetourt and Augusta counties in Virginia for any record that might help piece together Crawford families, I came across such a will.

The 1798 Augusta County, Virginia will signed by James Crawford identifies the following family members:

- wife, Mary
- youngest son, John Crawford
- son George Crawford
- son James Crawford
- son William Crawford
- daughter Sarah Crawford
- daughter Elizabeth Crawford
- brother William Crawford
- brother in law William Robertson
- witness George Crawford
- witness Robert Crawford
- witness Robert Craig
- adjoining land owner: John Poages
- adjoining land owner: William Craig
- adjoining land owner: Samuel Bell
- adjoining land owner Goerge Poffs
- adjoining land owner Johnson

I did find one Ancestry tree that cited the will. However, it is missing one of the daughters. When Mary Robertson's profile is viewed, this tree does not include the brother-in-law.

The screenshot shows an Ancestry profile for James Crawford. The profile includes a timeline with birth in 1725 (AGE 73) and death in 1798. The 'Facts' section lists Name (James Crawford), Gender (Male), Birth (1725 • Northern Ireland), and Death (1798 • Augusta Co, Virginia). The 'Sources' section lists 'Ancestry Family Trees' and 'Virginia, U.S., Wills and Probate Records, 165' with a link to a specific record. The 'Family' section lists Parents (John Crawford 1707-1796 and Unknown mother) and Siblings (Mary Elizabeth Robertson, William Crawford 1759-1814, James Crawford -1798, Elizabeth Crawford, George Crawford, and John Crawford).

Another tree has a James Crawford who died in 1798 in Augusta County, Virginia with a wife named Mary. Again the family in the tree does not match the family in the will. However, this tree shows James to be the son of George Crawford and Elizabeth Poage. With the Poage connection, it is possible that the 1798 will is for this James Crawford.

Since the will mentions land in Kentucky, further research is needed to see if there is any connection to the Crawford families in Garrard county, Kentucky.

Augusta County Virginia

Will Book 8, 1792-1799

Image 188 of 216

page 300

In the name of God Amen I James Crawford Crawford of the County of Augusta and State of Virginia Being in a sick and Low condition of Body But of Perfect Mind and Memory believing and knowing that it is appointed for all men to die do make this my last Will and Testament first of all I Commit my Soul to Almighty God The Giver & my Body to the dust Hoping that I shall receive them United & united to Jesus my Great Spiritual Head at the resurrection of the Just and as for what worldly Estate it hath pleased God to Bless me with I dispose of it in the following

Manner & form first of all It is my will that my Just & Lawfull Debts be Justly & Honestly paid secondly I give & Bequeath to my well beloved wife Mary my dwelling house Mill & one fourth part of my land extending down the river on the side the Buildings are on To John Poages Line and up the river on the same side to where Saml Bells Line [juts] in and up the several courses of Bells & my line to a corner of my Land & sd Bells south Eastward of the Big spring and wotj sd line of Bels & mine to a corner of Bells & mine The [draft] Below George Poffs junr & from thence Including said draft as far as it is fined upwards thence To [the] lake a South East Course till it strikes Willm Craigs Line & thence with sd Craigs Lines including a small entry Betwext Sd Craig & Johnson & with said Johnsons Line till it Joins John Poages Corner & with the same to the river to my sd well beloved wife Mary her lifetime & at her death to decend to my youngest son John Crawford to him his heirs & assigns forever , the Remainder of my Lands Both on the North West and South East sides of Middle River I give to my three sons George Crawford James Crawford & William Crawford To them their heirs & assigns forever to be divided equally Betwext them Good Land & Bad Justly as can Possibly be done and further if a right can be obtained by me or my heirs or executors for Land which I have purchasd in Kentuckey it is my will that it be divided Equally Betwixt Betwixt my four sons George Crawford , James Crawford , William Crawford & John Crawford to them their heirs & assigns or each of them forever further

page 301 (image 189 of 216)

Further I give & Bequeath to my Daughter Sarah Crawford & To my Daugh Elizabeth Crawford their Heirs & to each of them five Hundred pounds Cur Money in Gold or silver to Be Paid By my Executors out of my Estate and further I give & Bequeath to my well Beloved wife Mary Crawfd four Negroes Candace Winna Moll & [Ju]ll to be wholly at her disposal I [also] Bequeath to my Daughter Sarah Crawford to her her heirs etc one Ne girl named Hannah – also I give & Bequeath to my Daughter Eliza Crawfd to her her Heirs etc one Negro girl named Easter . and f[inally] It is my will that my well Beloved wife Mary have my four Negroe & four Horses for the Term of Ten years for the purpose of Carrying on Business on the Premises That I have left to her & my younest son after her , To support & Educate my children & also the other part of my Planta on which I now Live over the river to her my sd wife Mary the sd Term the sd purpose also I give unto my well Beloved wife Mary for the affore Ten years for the afforesaid Purposes Twenty Head of Nea[t] Cattle what sheep I now Have & what Hogs I now have I also give & Bequeath my well Beloved wife Mary her Choice of my Horses for a riding Bea wholly hers etc also I give unto my son George Crawford his Choice of [t] Colts I now have to him his heirs & further I give & bequeath to my well Beloved wife Mary my household Furniture to be disposd of as she shall thereto to our Children – also it is Probable that my wife Mary is Insant with if she should have of a living child in future it is my will that it be p for By my Executors out of every Ballance of my Estate of it be a m Child Equal to my other sons so far as the Ballance of my Estate may if a Female Equal with my girlss so far as the Ballance of my Estate not already Bequeathed & that movable property left my wife for the sup of my children (& Education of them) may amount of there is more for a than an Equal proportion the over plus I will to be Divided amongst my children the Ballance not will before and that Granted my wife for a Term for the Support & Education of my chil Childs are Both to be Count whether it be mail or Femall , and if my wife Mary Should not have a living child the Ballance of my Estate & mentiond in the last clause is to be Divided amongst all my children Equally ; & Further During

page 302

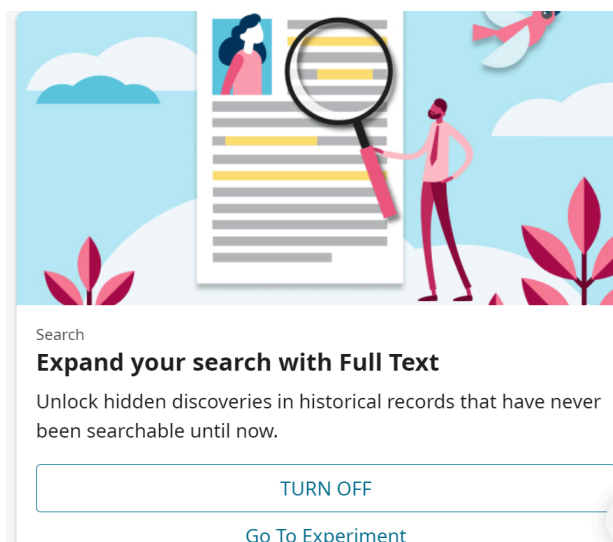
During the said Term of Ten years that my Mary is to Support & Educate my children if she should make a surplus it is my will that it be Devided Betwixt my children , also it is my will that all the Grain that is now Gatherd in that can be spared from the Support of my family the Ensuing season be assets in the hand of my Executors & further I constitute Ordain & appoint my Brother William Crawford & Brother in law William Robertson Executors of this my last will & Testament revoking & disannulling all other wills & Testaments by me in any wise made heretofore & Confirm ing this to be my last will & Testament Witness my hand & seal this 25th Day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand seven Hundred & Ninety Eight
James Crawford ®
Signed Sealed & acknowledged
in the presence of – Robert Craig
George Crawford
Robert Crawford
At a Court Cont & held for Augusta County February the 21st 1798
This last will and Testament of James Crawford decd was proved by the oath of George Crawford and Robert Crawford two of the witnesses thereto & ordered to be recorded , & on the motion of William Crawford & William Robertson execut –

Artificial Intelligence

Are you playing with AI (Artificial Intelligence) tools?

While I may not delve into AI as extensively as Randy Seaver at Genea-Musings (do check out his [AI related posts](https://www.geneamusings.com/search/label/Artificial%20Intelligence) See <https://www.geneamusings.com/search/label/Artificial%20Intelligence>.), I've certainly been experimenting. In fact, I'm integrating these tools into my daily research and writing activities.

One tool I've been using isn't a widely recognized AI engine, but it uses AI to create content. That 'tool' is FamilySearch's new experimental lab, which not only indexes but also transcribes and now summarizes images of deeds and wills in their collection. You can access this tool on their [Experimental Labs](https://www.familysearch.org/en/labs/) See <https://www.familysearch.org/en/labs/>. page by looking for 'Expand your search with Full Text' and clicking on 'Go to Experiment'. [Refer to my my earlier post for tips on using this site.]



Another favorite tool of mine is the Sider extension for Chrome. With this extension, I can drag an image of a newspaper clipping and have it extract the text. Despite occasional errors, the speed and accuracy with which it transcribes these old newspaper articles is a significant time-saver. [\[AI and Images\]](https://heartlandgenealogy.org/2024/03/11/ai-and-images/) See <https://heartlandgenealogy.org/2024/03/11/ai-and-images/>.

After learning more about the 'behind the scenes' workings of my blog, I started using ChatGPT to write meta descriptions for my posts. While these summaries can sometimes be a bit 'flowery,' they are always an improvement over what I would write.

I've also begun using ChatGPT to summarize groups of newspaper clippings. My favorite example is ChatGPT's [summary of articles](http://nemahacountyhistoricalsociety.com/jail-history) See <http://nemahacountyhistoricalsociety.com/jail-history>. about the Nemaha County sheriff's residence and jail from 1870-1960. Another notable instance is its [summarization of the specifications](http://nemahacountyhistoricalsociety.com/summary-of-jail-specifications) See <http://nemahacountyhistoricalsociety.com/summary-of-jail-specifications>. for the 1879 jail and sheriff's residence.

In terms of writing, ChatGPT has been invaluable. Inspired by Randy Seaver's AI generated poems, I provided ChatGPT with information about my great-great grandfather Washington Marion Crawford's, military service and asked it to write a [poem](https://heartlandgenealogy.org/2024/06/05/ai-poetry/) See <https://heartlandgenealogy.org/2024/06/05/ai-poetry/>. This ancestor had written a poem about his time in the military, making it a fitting tribute.

More recently, I asked ChatGPT to take the articles I had collected about a Purple Heart recipient and create a [children's story](https://heartlandgenealogy.org/2024/07/23/ai-childrens-story/) See <https://heartlandgenealogy.org/2024/07/23/ai-childrens-story/>. I then used [ElevenLabs](https://elevenlabs.io/) See <https://elevenlabs.io/>?utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=brand&utm_content=us_eng&utm_term=eleven%20labs&gad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQjwzby1BhCQARIsAJ_0XILG-oYgucaAokTEALw_wcB. to convert that story to audio.

ChatGPT has also helped explain [legal terms](https://heartlandgenealogy.org/2024/07/29/transferring-use/) See <https://heartlandgenealogy.org/2024/07/29/transferring-use/>. found in old deeds, greatly assisting me in utilizing these documents.

For historical research, my favorite tool is [Per](https://www.perplexity.ai/) See <https://www.perplexity.ai/>. [plexity](https://heartlandgenealogy.org/2024/04/25/perplexed-but-learning/) See <https://heartlandgenealogy.org/2024/04/25/perplexed-but-learning/>. [Perplexed but Learning See <https://heartlandgenealogy.org/2024/04/25/perplexed-but-learning/>]. Recently, I asked Perplexity about the 'luggage' that emigrants would bring with them. I appreciate that Perplexity not only answers the question but also provides the sources for its information.

What kind of luggage did emigrants from Germany bring with them when traveling steerage in 1901?

Based on the search results and historical context, emigrants traveling in steerage from Germany in 1901 would have typically brought the following types of luggage:

1. Small trunks or chests: These were sturdy, often wooden containers reinforced with metal corners and strapping. By 1901, some trunks were made entirely of sheet metal[4].
2. Suitcases: These were becoming more common for travel by the turn of the 20th century.
3. Cloth bundles: Simple and inexpensive way to carry belongings.
4. Small bags: Easy to carry and manage during the journey.
5. Wicker baskets or hampers: Used for carrying various items, including food.

The luggage would have been relatively modest in size and quantity, as steerage passengers had limited space[1][4]. Emigrants often had to make difficult choices about what to bring, focusing on essential items such as:

- Clothing and linens
- Small kitchen utensils
- Basic tools
- Family mementos or valuables
- Some food for the journey

It's important to note that many emigrants, especially those traveling in steerage, would have had to sell or leave behind larger items like furniture due to space constraints and the cost of transport[4]. The goal was to travel as light as possible while bringing the most essential and valuable possessions.

Emigrants often packed their belongings with great care, as these items represented their entire material wealth and would be crucial for starting their new lives in America. The luggage itself was not only functional but also symbolic, often described as being “packed with hope”[5].

Citations:

- [1] <https://gahe.omeka.net/items/show/32>
- [2] <https://www.nber.org/system/files/chapters/c5114/c5114.pdf>
- [3] https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Germany_Emigration_and_Immigration
- [4] <https://www.historymuseum.ca/cmc/exhibitions/tresors/immigration/imf0900e.html>
- [5] <https://byemyself.com/migration-from-north-german-ports-to-the-americas/>

I love using these tools! However, I am concerned about their impact on education. As a former teacher, I know students will inevitably find and use these tools for research and writing assignments. In some cases, they may even ask ChatGPT or another AI tool to do an assignment for them. Is this ‘cheating’ or is it a valid use of resources? Educators, parents and students will need to navigate this quickly.

On the other hand, I believe students need to be taught how to use these tools. While still in development AI tools will impact the workplace. By helping high school students learn to effectively use these tools now, they will be equipped for the workplace of the future.

Purple Heart

Elgin Strahm

(written by ChatGPT based on transcriptions from newspaper articles and Find a Grave information)

Elgin Strahm was born on January 3, 1919, and his life tragically ended on July 1, 1943, in Morobe, Papua New Guinea. His name is memorialized on the Tablet of the Missing at the Manila American Cemetery and Memorial in Manila, Philippines.

Elgin's journey into military service began when he was listed among 35 men from Nemaha County accepted for military duty in early March 1942 (Courier Tribune, March 2, 1942). By mid-April 1942, he was among nineteen young men who left for the service of Uncle Sam, receiving a heartfelt send-off from friends and family (Corning Gazette, April 16, 1942).

After his induction, Elgin's military journey took him to various training camps across the United States. In early May 1942, he was stationed at Camp Robinson, Arkansas (Sabetha Herald, May 6, 1942). By July, he had moved to Camp Edwards, Massachusetts, as part of the 592nd Engineer Boat Regiment (Sabetha Herald, July 8, 1942). He visited his family in December 1942 while stationed at Fort Ord, California (Sabetha Herald, December 23, 1942). His promotion to Staff Sergeant came in January 1943 while he was deployed in the South Pacific (Sabetha Herald, January 20, 1943).

Elgin's service culminated in his deployment to the Southwest Pacific, where he arrived in New Guinea in May 1943. His role in the Engineering Amphibian Boat service was critical, and he quickly rose through the ranks due to his dedication and leadership skills (Courier Tribune, July 15, 1943).

On July 1, 1943, Elgin Strahm was killed in action. His death was a profound loss to his family and the community of Sabetha. A heartfelt message from the Secretary of War conveyed the news to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ed B. Strahm, marking a sorrowful day for all who knew him (Courier Tribune, July 15, 1943).


Elgin's memory was honored through various tributes and memorials. A scripture from Ephesians was used to commemorate his life and service, highlighting his spiritual strength and the impact he had on his comrades. Letters from his fellow soldiers, like Cpl. Alfred Smith and Sgt. Claude W. Powell, spoke of his leadership, cheerfulness, and the respect he commanded among his peers (Sabetha Herald, October 27, 1943).

Memorial services for Elgin were held on October 31, 1943, at the Christian Apostolic Church in Sabetha. The community came together to pay tribute to a man held in deep affection by all who knew him. The American Legion and Legion Auxiliary members were present, reflecting the high regard in which he was held (Sabetha Herald, November 3, 1943).

Elgin Strahm's legacy lives on as a testament to his bravery, leadership, and the ultimate sacrifice he made for his country. His life, though short, was filled with meaningful contributions to his community and nation. He is remembered not only as a soldier but as a beloved son, brother, and friend.

Sources Used:

- Find a Grave Memorial
 - Birth: 3 Jan 1919
 - Death: 1 Jul 1943 – Morobe, Papua New Guinea
 - Monument: Manila American Cemetery and Memorial in Manila, Capital District, National Capital Region, Philippines
 - Tablet of the missing
- Courier Tribune (Seneca, KS) 2 Mar 1942, page 1
 - List of 35 about to Go
- Corning Gazette (Corning, KS) 16 Apr 1942, page 1
 - Nineteen More in Army from Nemaha County
- Courier Tribune (Seneca, KS) 13 Apr 1942, page 1
 - MORE MEN TO THE ARMY. OVER TWENTY TODAY
- Sabetha Herald (Sabetha, KS) 6 May 1942, page 1
 - Service Men's Addresses
- Sabetha Herald (Sabetha, KS) 8 Jul 1942, page 1
 - Service Men's Addresses
- Sabetha Herald (Sabetha, KS) 23 Dec 1942, page 1
 - Sgt. Elgin Strahm is here from Ft. Ord, Calif., to visit his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Strahm and family.
- Sabetha Herald (Sabetha, KS) 20 Jan 1943, page 1
 - Elgin Strahm, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Strahm, who is somewhere in the South Pacific, has recently been promoted and is now a staff sergeant.
- Sabetha Herald (Sabetha, KS) 27 Oct 1943, page 1
 - Men In The Service – Death Of Elgin Strahm Lives On As Sermon
- Sabetha Herald (Sabetha, KS) 27 Oct 1943, page 1
 - Service for Elgin Strahm
- Sabetha Herald (Sabetha, KS) 3 Nov 1943, page 1
 - Men In The Service – Memorial Service for Elgin Strahm
- Courier Tribune (Seneca, KS) 15 Jul 1943, page 1
 - SABETHA BOY GIVES LIFE IN WAR OF PACIFIC



MONUMENT

Photo added by [steve s](#)

[+ Add Photos](#) [Request Photo](#)

ssgt Elgin Andrew Strahm

BIRTH 3 Jan 1919
Kansas, USA


DEATH 1 Jul 1943 (aged 24)
Morobe, Papua New Guinea

MONUMENT [Manila American Cemetery and Memorial](#)
Manila, Capital District, National Capital Region, Philippines [Add to Map](#)

PLOT Tablets of the Missing - United States Army and Army Air Forces

MEMORIAL ID 56763700 · [View Source](#)

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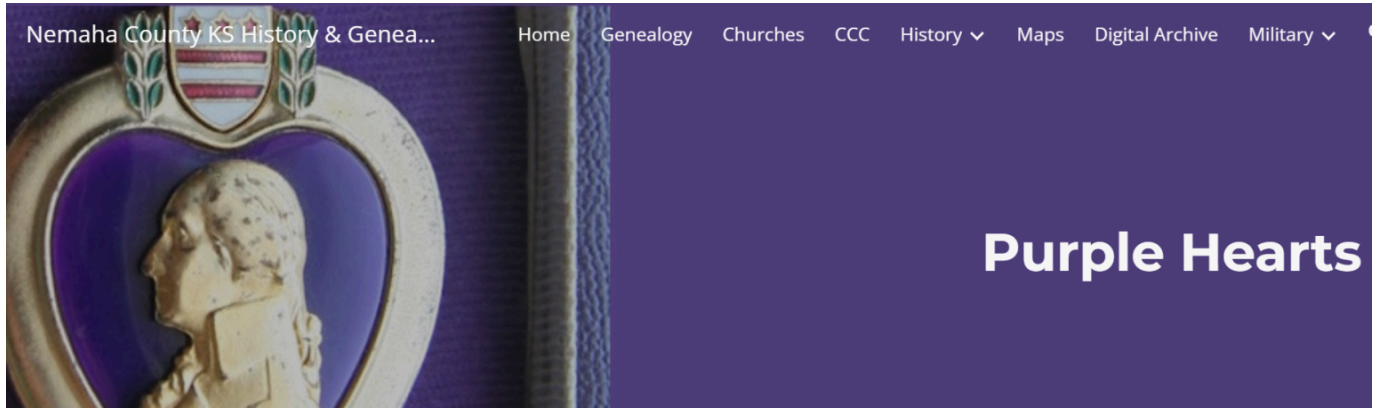


Purple Heart

Today is National Purple Heart Day.

A year ago, I heard the morning DJ announce that 'today is Purple Heart Day'. As a volunteer for the Nemaha County Historical Society, my first thought was to find the list of Nemaha County residents who had received a Purple Heart and share it on Facebook. Unfortunately, I could not find a master list of Purple Heart recipients or even a specific list for Nemaha county.

This marked the beginning of my year-long quest to compile a comprehensive list of Purple Heart recipients from Nemaha County, Kansas. Using various resources, including self-reporting, I have assembled a list that is still likely incomplete. This list is now available on the Nemaha County Historical Society's [Purple Heart](https://sites.google.com/view/nemahahistory/military/purple-hearts) See <https://sites.google.com/view/nemahahistory/military/purple-hearts>. page.



Recently, I learned about the [National Purple Heart Trail](https://www.purpleheart.org/PurpleHeartTrail) See <https://www.purpleheart.org/PurpleHeartTrail>. sponsored by the [Military Order of the Purple Heart](https://www.purpleheart.org/) See <https://www.purpleheart.org/>.. I am hopeful that tonight, the Seneca City Council will proclaim Seneca, Kansas as a Purple Heart City.

Tax Records

Have you ever tried to identify households living in an area prior to the census? If so, you've likely turned to tax records. While I've used these records extensively, I often struggle to connect a name in a tax record to a name in my family tree.

My Crawford research is particularly challenging because it involves multiple men with the same name of the same approximate age, as well as several different family lines living in the same area. This makes it difficult to identify and verify family relationships.

My ultimate goal is to find the parents of my ancestor, James Crawford (1772-1854). However, my research also involves two other James Crawford lines: James (1758-1836) and James (1770-1833). To identify these families in the Virginia records, I will not only look for James Crawford but also branch out to records involving some of my Kentucky FAN (Friends, Associates, and Neighbors) club members:

- [James Crawford](https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/LVYV-H4M) See <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/LVYV-H4M>. (1758-1836) – wife [Rebecca Anderson](https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/LZ6S-RWZ) See <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/LZ6S-RWZ>. [LZ6S-RWZ]
- [Bazaleel Maxwell](https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/LTBF-B5H) See <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/LTBF-B5H>. – brother-in-law of James Crawford (wife Rebecca Anderson)
- [John Crawford](https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/LZ58-W9R) See <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/LZ58-W9R>. – husband of [Rebekah Douglass](https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/LCRX-7DF) See <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/LCRX-7DF>. – probably parents of James Crawford (1772-1833)
- [George Douglass](https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/G7QB-GBJ) See <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/G7QB-GBJ>. – brother to Rebekah Douglas

James (1758-1836) and John Crawford are likely brothers. Since I already have two records from Montgomery County, Virginia (a marriage record for James Crawford to Rebecca Maxwell and a will for John Crawford), I'm starting my Virginia research with Montgomery county. Fortunately, the [FamilySearch wiki for Montgomery County, Virginia](https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Montgomery_County_Virginia_Genealogy) See https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Montgomery_County_Virginia_Genealogy. identifies several sources for these early tax records.

The source, [Virginia Tax Payers, 1782-1787](https://www.familysearch.org/library/books/records/item/582551-redirect) See <https://www.familysearch.org/library/books/records/item/582551-redirect>., is proving valuable since it combines the information from these tax records for several Virginia counties including Augusta, Botetourt, Montgomery and even Lincoln County, Kentucky. Unfortunately, this book does cover every Virginia county.

Aug. for Augusta County.			Ja.Cy for James City County		
Acco.	"	Accomac "	K.Wm.	"	King William
Bot.	"	Botetourt "	K.&Q	"	King & Queen
Buck.	"	Buckingham"	K.Geo.	"	King George
Berk.	"	Berkley	Lun.	"	Lunenburg
Brun.	"	Brunswick "	Lou.	"	Loudon
Bed.	"	Bedford "	Loui.	"	Louisa
Cul.	"	Culpeper "	Mont.	"	Montgomery
Cha.Cy"		Charles City	Noi.	"	Northampton
Caro.	"	Caroline	Pr.Wm.	"	Prince William
Camp.	"	Campbell	Pr.Geo.	"	Prince George
Din.	"	Dinwiddie	Rock.	"	Rockbridge
Eli.Cy"		Elizabeth City	Spots.	"	Spotsylvania
Fau.	"	Fauquier	So'n	"	Southampton
Gooch."		Goochland	Wash.	"	Washington
Hen.	"	Henrico	West.	"	Westmoreland
Henry	"	Henry	York	"	York
Har.	"	Hardy			

Using screenshots and the Chrome extension, Sider, I as able to quickly copy the list of names into Excel. Now I have a list of Crawford taxpayers in various Virginia counties prior to 1800:

Page	Name	Poll	Slaves	County	
30	Crawford, Alexander	1	2	Aug.	
30	Crawford, David	1		Aug.	
30	Crawford, George	1	1	Aug.	
30	Crawford, George			Aug.	
30	Crawford, George			Aug.	
30	Crawford, James	3	10	Aug.	
30	Crawford, James	1	5	Aug.	
30	Crawford, John	1	4	Aug.	
30	Crawford, Nathan	1		Aug.	
30	Crawford, Patrick	2	7	Aug.	
30	Crawford, William	1	4	Aug.	
36	Douglass, William	1	1	Aug.	
36	Dooley, George	1	1	Bed.	
36	Dooley, John	1	1	Bed.	
36	Dooley, John	1		Bed.	
36	Dooley, Joseph	1		Bed.	
36	Dooley, Rebecca	2		Bed.	
36	Dooley, Stephen	1		Bed.	
36	Dooley, Thomas	1		Bed.	
36	Dooley, Thomas, Jr.	1		Bed.	
36	Douglass, David	1	4	Bed.	
36	Douglas, John	1	1	Berk.	
36	Douglas, William	1	1	Berk.	
81	Maxwell, John	1		Berk.	

81	Maxwell, John	1		Berk.
30	Crawford, Andrew	1		Bot.
30	Crawford, Andrew, Jr.	1		Bot.
30	Crawford, Archibald	1		Bot.
30	Crawford, James	1		Bot.
30	Crawford, John	1	1	Bot.
30	Crawford, John, Jr.	1		Bot.
30	Crawford, Josiah	1		Bot.
30	Crawford, Rev. Edward	1	3	Bot.
30	Crawford, Samuel	1	2	Bot.
30	Crawford, Samuel	2		Bot.
30	Crawford, William	1	1	Bot.
30	Crawford, William			Bot.
30	Crawford, William	1		Bot.
36	Douglass, John	1	5	Buck.
36	Douglas, Sarah	1	1	C.Geo.
36	Douglass, William	1	1	C.Geo.
36	Douglas, Robert, Sr.	1	2	Camp.
30	Crafford	2	7	Cul
30	Crafford, Archelus	1		Cul
30	Crafford, Gideon	1	2	Cul
30	Crafford, Oliver			Cul
81	Maxwell, Thomas	2		Cul
81	Maxwell, John			Cul.
30	Crawford, William	1		Fau.
36	Douglass, Thomas	1	1	Fau.
81	Maxwell, Alexander	1		Fay
30	Crawford, James	1	2	Fay.
81	Maxwell, John	2	2	Fay.
81	Maxwell, Thomas			Fay.
81	Maxwell, William			Fay.
81	Maxwell, William	2		Fay.
30	Crawford, John	1	2	Hen.
36	Dooley, Thomas	1	2	Henry
36	Douglass, Andrew	1	1	Henry
36	Douglas, John	1	8	K.&Qu.
36	Douglas, Robert, Jr.	1	3	K.&Qu.
30	Crawford, Rebecca			Lin.
36	Douglass, Alexander	1	1	Lin.
36	Douglass, George	1	1	Lin.
81	Maxill, John Jr.	1	1	Lin.
36	Douglass, Hugh	1	1	Lou.
81	Maxwell, George	1		Loud.
30	Crawford, John	1	5	Loui
30	Crawford, Peter	1	3	Loui
36	Douglass, Rev. Wm.	1	37	Loui.
30	Crawford, Edward	1		Mont.
30	Crawford, James	1		Mont.
30	Crawford, Robert	1		Mont.
36	Dooley, Abraham	1		Mont.
36	Douglass, James	1	3	Mont.
81	Maxwell, Bealeel	1		Mont.
81	Maxwell, Elisha	1		Mont.
81	Maxwell, James	1		Mont.
81	Maxwell, John	1		Mont.
81	Maxwell, Thomas	1		Mont.
81	Maxwell, William	1		Mont.
81	Maxwell, William	1	1	Mont.
36	Douglass, Mrs. Cato	1	20	Pr.Wm.
30	Crawford, James	1		Rock.
30	Crawford, William	1		Rock.
30	Crawford, William	1		Rock.
36	Dooly, Valentine	1		Rock.
81	Maxwell, John	2		Rock.
30	Crafford	7		So'n
30	Crawford, Christopher	1		Spots.
30	Crawford, James	1		Spots.
30	Crawford, James, Sr.	1	6	Spots.
30	Crawford, Andrew	1	9	West.
30	Crawford, Presley	1	1	West.
36	Douglass, Joseph	1	3	West.

Crawford, Alexander,	1	2	Aug.
Crawford, Andrew,	1		Bot.
Crawford, Andrew, Jr.,	1		Bot.
Crawford, Andrew,	1	9	West.
Crawford, Archibald,	1		Bot.
Crawford, Christopher,	1		Spots
Crawford, David,	1		Aug.
Crawford, Rev. Edward,	1	3	Bot.
Crawford, Edward,	1		Mont.
Crawford, George,			Aug.
Crawford, George,)
Crawford, James,	3	10	Aug.
Crawford, James,	1		Spots
Crawford, James, Sr.,	1	6	Spots

Crawford, James,	1	5	Aug.
Crawford, James,	1	1	Aug.
Crawford, James,	1		Mont.
Crawford, James,	1	2	Fay.
Crawford, James,	1		Rock.
Crawford, James,	1		Bot.
Crawford, John,	1	4	Aug.
Crawford, John,	1	1	Bot.
Crawford, John, Jr.,	1		Bot.
Crawford, John,	1	5	Loui.
Crawford, John,	1	2	Hen.
Crawford, Josiah,	1		Bot.
Crawford, Nathan,	1		Aug.
Crawford, Patrick,	2	7	Aug.
Crawford, Peter,	1	5	Loui.
Crawford, Presley,	1	1	West.
Crawford, Rebecca,			Lin.
Crawford, Robert,	1		Mont.
Crawford, Samuel,	1	2	Bot.
Crawford, Samuel,	2		Bot.
Crawford, William,	1	1	Bot.
Crawford, William,			Bot.
Crawford, William,	1		Bot.
Crawford, William,	1	4	Aug.
Crawford, William,	1		Aug.
Crawford, William,	1		Fau.
Crawford, William,	1		Rock.
Crawford, William,	1		Rock.

Friday Find

Do you have photocopies from books without a copy of the title page? As I'm researching the Crawford family in western Virginia, I came across a citation pointing to an old document in my files: Crawford.OH.028.

According to what is written at the top of the first page, this photocopy is from Miami Valley Genealogies, Vol. 2, Families A-K. According to World Cat, this [resource by Lindsay Brien](https://search.worldcat.org/title/3702233) See <https://search.worldcat.org/title/3702233>. was a 5 volume set of books.

While this Crawford genealogy contains some sources, there is no guarantee that the families are not mixed up.

Below is a transcription of this information. I used screenshots from the PDF file and the Sider Chrome extension to transcribe the text. I found some 'hallucinations' when proofreading the document but the vast majority was transcribed correctly.

Miami Valley Genealogies
Vol. 2
Families A-K

Page 49

CRAWFORD

It has been well established that the Crawford family, early settlers of Augusta County, Virginia, settled first in Pennsylvania. From Virginia they removed to Kentucky, Ohio and Missouri.

Waddell, in his "Annals of Augusta County" and Peyton, in his "History of Augusta County" give short records of this family and by referring to the court records of Augusta County, three volumes by Chalkley, a fairly complete record is compiled.

The first mention of this family in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, is when Ann Crawford, a widow, mother of Patrick, James, George and Alexander, is granted 200 acres of land, Mar. 31, 1736. The son James was granted 200 acres on the same date. This is the James Crawford, merchant, who later settled on Middle River, Augusta County, Virginia. A suit in Augusta County shows that Alexander Crawford was a resident of Lancaster Co., Pa., another suit shows the family lived near the mouth of Octoraro Creek in Lancaster County.

In Chalkley, Vol. I, p. 82, we find that Alexander Crawford was in Virginia in 1746 and Aug. 19, 1758 was added to the tithables of Augusta County. There may have been two other brothers, as Thomas Crawford was added to the list of tithables, Aug. 26, 1750 (Chalkley, Vol. I, p. 41) and William was there in 1755, and guardian for the children of Alexander in 1768 (Same p147).

On Aug. 12, 1747, George Crawford was appointed "Overseer of the Road" (same p 30) Aug. 24, 1754 (p 65) Patrick is defendant in a suit; and that James Crawford died in 1751 (p370) "possessed of considerable estate." There was also a sister, Marry, who married John Poage or Pogue. Her brother Patrick gives consent.

Alexander Crawford was a large land owner and at the time of his death possessed 1640 acres. His wife was Mary McPheeters and they were both killed by Indians, the exact date not known, but in 1764. William McPheeters was the Administrator. They had issue:

John Crawford, born 1741, died Jan. 1832, age 91 years. He served through the Revolution, from Point Pleasant to Yorktown, (Waddell, p 462) and is buried in Hebron Church yard. He married (1) Peggy Crawford, daughter of Patrick; she died Feb. 1788, as her estate was administered by John Feb. 19, 1788. They had one daughter, Margaret, who married Daniel Fall, Aug. 30, 1797 and removed to Ohio. John married (2) Mary Craig and had issue five children, among them a son Samuel and a daughter Mary, who married Samuel Gillespie.

John married (3) Feb. 24, 1797, Sarah Newman of Fredericksburg and had issue, James, William and John, all to Missouri; and daughters Nancy, wife of Leroy Newman and Fanny, who married Henry Pippetoe. The migration to Missouri was in 1838.

Alexander Crawford Jr. served in the Revolution and died June 19, 1830. He married (1) — Hopkins and had issue — Polly, Betsy, Kittie and Sally.

(2) the widow McClure and had issue — James, William, George, Samuel, Robert, William. George and Samuel died young.

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Edward Crawford, graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary in 1775, a Presbyterian Minister.

James Crawford, also a Presbyterian Minister, removed to Kentucky.

Rebecca Crawford married John Sawyer and removed to Kentucky. He was born in 1753 and in Chalkley, Vol. I, p 148, find "Mar. 19, 1768, Rebecca Crawford, daughter of Alexander, chose William Crawford her guardian

Mary Crawford, no record except that William Crawford is guardian.

Martha Crawford, married Alexander Craig. All her children went west.

Robert Crawford, married Sarah Crawford, a cousin, daughter of George Crawford, His will recorded Oct. 29, 1810, names wife Sarah and children, George, Elizabeth, Hugh, Jane, James, Robert, William and John.
Chalkley, Vol. I p 155, "Mar. 21, 1769, William McPheeters, Jr., guardian for Alexander and Robert, orphans of Alexander Crawford dec'd."

Samuel Crawford, probably the youngest child of Alexander and Mary (McPheeters) Crawford, was born in 1759, as Mar. 17, 1773, Samuel Crawford, age 14 years, orphan of Alexander Crawford, chose Samuel McPheeters guardian."
(Same p 170) This is perhaps the Samuel, who married Oct. 9, 1790, Elizabeth Craig, Elizabeth Craig and left a will recorded in 1795, his son William and a brother James.

James Crawford settled on Middle River, Augusta County, where he died in 1751; his wife was Elizabeth Robertson, sister of William Robertson; issue —

Jane Crawford, who married, 1769, James Brown.

James Crawford, Jr., who qualified as a Justice, Apr. 28, 1785. Chalkley, Vol. 1, p 370, "May 1774, James Brown and Jane his wife, married July 1769, late Jane Crawford, daughter of James Crawford, who died 1751, possessed of considerable estate, leaving a widow, Elizabeth and two children, Jane (above) and James."

Elizabeth Crawford, nee Robertson, a sister of William Robertson. James Sr. had a brother Patrick Crawford.

George Crawford was in Virginia as early as 1747, when he was appointed Overseer of the Road. He died between 1780-84; the name of his wife is not known and the list of his children is not complete; those known –

James Crawford, the oldest son died in 1798; he married, Dec. 30, 1786, Mary Crawford, a cousin, (daughter of Patrick) and had issue –

Sarah, married Charles McClung.

James Crawford, never married.

William Crawford never married

John, married, Jan. 1819, Margaret Bell (dau. of Wm.)

George, died inf.

Elizabeth, married Samuel McClung.

Mary, born after father's death; married John Allen.

Chalkley, Vol. 2, p. 259, Crawford vs Crawford, 1821; William Bell and Margaret Crawford, executors of James Crawford, who died in Augusta County, will dated 1798, leaving six children, four sons and two daughters. A daughter born after his death, son George died as infant; William never married; Sarah married Charles

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Clung; Elizabeth, married Samuel McClung; Polly, posthumous daughter, married John Allen, Sarah and Polly are dead (1821); Mary the widow lives with her daughter Elizabeth in Greenbrier County.

John Crawford, no record.

George Crawford Jr., served in the Revolution and July 18, 1786 (Vol. 1, p 246) is allowed for a gun lost in service and in 1799 (p. 292) is exempt from levy because of age and infirmity. (Could this be George Sr.?)

Daughter, married Col. Andrew Anderson, as his first wife; she died Aug. 12, 1786 and he married (2) Mar. 13, 1788, her cousin, Martha Crawford, daughter of Patrick. (Chalkley, Vol. 2, p. 206) "Col. Andrew Anderson deposes, Oct. 29, 1818, that he married in Staunton, the oldest daughter of George Crawford of Augusta, who died Aug. 12, 1786."

William Crawford, will recorded in Rockbridge County, June 3, 1783; names wife Mary; sons, George, William, John; daughters, Eleanor, Isabel, Mary, Elizabeth.

Sarah Crawford, married her cousin, Robert Crawford, son of Alexander; had issue – George, Elizabeth, Hugh, James, Jane, Robert, William, John.

Patrick Crawford was born in Ireland, and came first to Pennsylvania and removed from there to Augusta County, Virginia in about 1750 (Waddell). His wife was Sarah Wilson; issue, four sons and five daughters. The daughters were:

Martha, baptized 1748, probably died young.

Elizabeth, born Oct 18, 1751, married Alexander Robertson.

Peggy, married John Crawford, son of George.

Daughter, married James McChesney; had son George

Martha, born May 10, 1761, married, Mar. 13, 1788, Col. Andrew Anderson as his second wife; his first wife was her cousin, a daughter of George, she died 1786.

Mary, married, Dec. 30, 1786, James Crawford, oldest son of George.

The sons were —

George Crawford, born Oct. 1, 1754, married, June 23, 1788, Nancy Winter (dau. of Wm. And Anne (Boone) Winer); issue:

Nancy Crawford married John Miller

Hannah Crawford married Harry Miller.

Sarah Crawford married James Bell is 2nd wife.

Jane Crawford married Franklin McCue

Martha Crawford married Peter Hanger.

Polly Crawford, married James Hourland, Sept. 17, 1812

Peggy Crawford married James Walker

The above from Chalkley, Vol. 1, p. 427; "George Crawford died intestate leaving six children etc. "Peggy a minor". Nancy, who married John Miller not in deed.

John Crawford, (Maj. John), born Mar. 29, 1764, married, July 5, 179[0], Rebecca Allen, daughter of Capt. James; issue –

Elizabeth married Capt. William Ingles.

Sarah, married John Hyde.

Margaret, married Cyrus Hyde, his 1st wife.

James, married Cynthia McClung.

John, married Harriet McClung.

George W, never married.

Ann., married Franklin McCue, his 2nd wife.

Mary married Edward Moorman.

Rebecca married Stewart McClung.

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William Crawford, born Aug. 6, 1767, married Nancy Smith, daughter of Abraham Smith; issue –

Benjamin, James, John, George, William and six daughters.

Benjamin, married Magdalena Cochran; issue –

Elizabeth, James, Nancy, who married Col. James Crawford of Culpeper; Addison and Benjamin.

James, never married.

John, married Mary Allen.

James Crawford, born Aug. 6, 1757, named as the second son of Patrick, married - _____ McClung of Greenbrier; issue –

John H., married Mrs. Trinkle, nee Rice.

William, – married McChesney of Rockbridge Co.

Edward, -married dau. of William Crawford.

James, removed to Texas.

Marshall, – married dau. of Alexander Crawford of Crawford Springs, Augusta Co

It has been well established that the Crawford family, early settlers of Augusta County, Virginia, settled first in Pennsylvania. From Virginia they removed to Kentucky, Ohio and Missouri. Waddell, in his 'Annals of Augusta County' and Peyton, in his 'History of Augusta County' give short records of this family and by referring to the court records of Augusta County, three volumes by Chalkley, a fairly complete record is compiled. The first mention of this family in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, is when Ann Crawford, a widow, mother of Patrick, James, George and Alexander, is granted 64 acres of land, Mar. 31, 1736. The son James was granted 200 acres on the same date. This is the James, merchant, who later settled on Middle River, Augusta County, Virginia. A suit in Augusta County shows that Alexander Crawford was a resident of Lancaster Co., Pa., and another suit shows that the family lived near the mouth of Octararo Creek in Lancaster County.

In Chalkley, Vol. 1, p 82, we find that Alexander Crawford was in Virginia in 1746 and Aug. 19, 1758 was added to the tithables of Augusta County. There may have been two other brothers, as a Thomas Crawford was added to the list of tithables, Aug. 28, 1750, (Chalkley, Vol. 1, p 41) and a William was there in 1755, and guardian for the children of Alexander in 1768 (Same p 147).

On Aug. 12, 1747, George Crawford was appointed 'Overseer of the Road' (Same p 40); Aug. 24, 1754 (p 65) Patrick is the defendant in a suit; and that James Crawford died in 1751 (p 370) 'possessed of considerable estate'. There was also a sister, Mary, who married John Poage or Pogue. Her brother Patrick gives consent.

Alexander Crawford was a large land owner and at the time of his death possessed 1640 acres. His wife was Mary McPheeters and they were both killed by Indians, the exact date not known, but in 1764 William McPheeters was the Administrator. They had issue - John Crawford, born 1741, died Jan. 1832, age 91 years. He served thru the Revolution, from Point Pleasant to Yorktown, (Waddell, p 462) and is buried in Hebron Church yard. He married (1) Peggy Crawford, daughter of Patrick; she died Feb. 1788, as her estate was administered by John Feb. 19, 1788. They had one daughter, Margaret, who married Daniel Fall, Aug. 30, 1797 and removed to Ohio. John married (2) Mary Craig and had issue five children, among them a son Samuel and a daughter Mary, who married Samuel Gillespie. John married (3) Feb. 24, 1797, Sarah Newman of Fredericksburg and had issue, James, William and John, all to Missouri; and daughters Nancy, wife of Leroy Newman and Fanny, who married Henry Pippetoe. The migration to Missouri was in 1838.

Alexander Crawford Jr. served in the Revolution and died June 19, 1830. He married (1) --- Hopkins and had issue - Polly, Betsy, Kitty and Sally. (2) the widow McClure and had issue - James, William, George, Samuel, Robert, William. George and Samuel died young.

Edward Crawford, graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary in 1775, a Presbyterian Minister.

ies Crawford, also a Presbyterian Minister; removed to Kentucky.

Rebecca Crawford, married John Sawyer and removed to Kentucky. She was born in 1753 and in Chalkley, Vol. 1, p 148, find " Mar. 19, 1768, Rebecca Crawford, daughter of Alexander, chose William Crawford her guardian."

Mary Crawford, no record except that William Crawford is guardian.

Martha Crawford, married Alexander Craig. All her children went west.

Robert Crawford, married Sarah Crawford, a cousin, daughter of George Crawford. His will recorded Oct. 29, 1810, names wife Sarah and children, George, Elizabeth, Hugh, Jane, James, Robert, William and John. Chalkley, Vol. 1 p 155, "Mar. 21, 1769, William McPheeters Jr., guardian for Alexander and Robert, orphans of Alexander Crawford dec'd."

Samuel Crawford, probably the youngest child of Alexander and Mary (McPheeters) Crawford, was born in 1759, as Mar. 17, 1773, Samuel Crawford, age 14 years, orphan of Alexander Crawford, chose Samuel McPheeters guardian. (Same p 170). This is perhaps the Samuel, who married, Oct. 9, 1790, Elizabeth Craig and left a will recorded 1795, naming his son William and a brother James.

James Crawford settled on Middle River, Augusta County, where he died in 1751; his wife was Elizabeth Robertson, sister of William Robertson; issue -

Jane Crawford, who married, 1769, James Brown.

James Crawford Jr., who qualified as a Justice, Apr. 28, 1785.

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 George, died inf.
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 Mary, born after father's death; married John Allen.

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Clung; Elizabeth, married Samuel McClung; Polly, posthumous daughter, married John Allen; Sarah and Polly are dead (1821); Mary, the widow lives with her daughter Elizabeth in Greenbrier County."

John Crawford, no record.

George Crawford Jr., served in the Revolution and July 18, 1786 (Vol. 1, p 246) is allowed for a gun lost in service and in 1799 (p 292) is exempt from levy because of age and infirmity. (Could this be George Sr.?)

Daughter, married Col. Andrew Anderson, as his first wife; she died Aug. 12, 1786 and he married (2) Mar. 13, 1788, her cousin, Martha Crawford, daughter of Patrick. (Chalkley, Vol. 2 p 203), "Col. Andrew Anderson deposes, Oct. 29, 1818, that he married in Staunton, the oldest daughter of George Crawford of Augusta, who died Aug. 12, 1786."

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Sarah Crawford, married her cousin, Robert Crawford, son of Alexander; issue - George, Elizabeth, Hugh, James, Jane, Robert, William, John.

Patrick Crawford was born in Ireland and came first to Pennsylvania and removed from there to Augusta County, Virginia about 1750 (Waddell). His wife was Sarah Wilson; issue, four sons and five daughters. The daughters were -
 Martha, baptized 1748, probably died young.
 Elizabeth, born Oct. 18, 1751, married Alexander Robertson.
 Peggy, married John Crawford, son of George.
 Daughter, married James McChesney; had son George.
 Martha, born May 10, 1761, married, Mar. 13, 1788, Col. Andrew Anderson as his second wife; his first wife was her cousin, a daughter of George; she died 1786.
 Mary, married, Dec. 30, 1786, James Crawford, oldest son of George.
 The sons were -
 George Crawford, born Oct. 1, 1754, married, June 23, 1788, Nancy Winter (da. of Wm. & Ann (Roone) Winter); issue -
 Nancy Crawford, married John Miller.
 Hannah " " Harry Miller.
 Sarah " " James Bell, his 2nd wife.
 Jane " " Franklin McCue.
 Martha " " Peter Hanger.
 Polly " " James Howland, Sept. 17, 1812.
 Peggy " " James Walker.
 "The above from Chalkley, Vol. 1, p 429; "George Crawford died intestate leaving six children" etc. "Peggy a minor". Nancy, who married John Miller not in deed.
 John Crawford, (Maj. John), born Mar. 29, 1764, married, July 5, 1799, Rebecca Allen, daughter of Capt. James; issue -
 Elizabeth, married Capt. William Inghes.
 Sarah, " John Hyde.
 Margaret, " Cyrus Hyde; his 1st wife.
 James, " Cynthia McClung.
 John, " Harriet McClung.
 George W., " never married.
 Ann, " Franklin McCue; his 2nd wife.
 Mary, " Edward Moorman. (5/2/15)
 Rebecca " Stewart McClung.

Peggy " " James Walker.
 The above from Chalkley, Vol.1, p 427; "George Crawford
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 George W., never married.
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William Crawford, born Aug.6, 1767, married Nancy Smith, daughter
 of Abraham Smith; issue -
 Benjamin, James, John, George, William and six
 daughters.

Benjamin, married Magdalena Cochran; issue -
 Elizabeth, James, Nancy, who married Col.
 James Crawford of Culpeper; Addison and
 Benjamin.

James, never married.
 John, married Mary Allen.

James Crawford, born Aug.6, 1757, named as the second son of Pat-
 rick, married --- McClung of Greenbrier; issue -

John H., married Mrs. Tirkle, nee Rice.
 William, " --- McChesney of Rockbridge Co.
 Edward, " dau. of William Crawford.
 James, removed to Texas.
 Marshall, " dau. of Alexander Crawford of
 Crawford Springs, Augusta Co.

Saturday Tidbits

Vincent Rethman

I've recently been using the 1941 issues of the Courier Tribune to chronicle military activity involving Nemaha county citizens. It was my intention to use the 17 Mar 1941 issue to obtain information for this post. Page 1 of that issue contains the article, To the Air Corps, about Vincent Rethman. Included with the article is a photograph.

Unfortunately, like many other photographs published in newspapers of that time, the photo was very dark. In hopes of finding a better photo to use, I did a Google search for Vincent Rethman and discovered from his obituary that he was a Colonel when he retired from the military. Curious about his career, I expanded my search to include articles found on Newspapers.com.

Since I had collected a wide variety of information about Vincent Rethman from various sources, I asked Chat GPT to take that information and write a biography. Below is ChatGPT's biography:

Biography of Vincent Rethman

Early Life and Education: Vincent Carl Rethman was born on February 19, 1916, in Baileyville, Kansas, to Elizabeth (Haug) and Bernard C. Rethman. He was the fourth child in his family, with sisters Agnes, Bette, Marie, and Hildelita. Vincent completed his education at the University of Kansas, earning a degree in chemical engineering in 1939. During his university years, he also completed the ROTC program, which set the foundation for his military career.

Military Career: Vincent received his commission as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army after completing his ROTC program. He initially served in the Chemical Warfare Reserve and attended summer camps at Edgewood Arsenal, Maryland, Fort Crook, Nebraska, and Fort Leavenworth. Although he had not been called to active duty, he passed a severe physical examination and was offered a chance to join the air corps as a flying cadet. His training began at Lakeland, Florida, in March 1941, before moving to Texas for further training.

World War II Service: During World War II, Vincent was commissioned at Maxwell Field, Alabama, after graduating from advanced flying schools. He became a P-38 Lightning pilot and flew 69 missions early in the war. His bravery was evident in missions such as an air battle north of Cape Bon, where he and another pilot downed a Messerschmitt. He was recognized for his contributions with the Distinguished Flying Cross for his participation in a trans-Atlantic flight and 40 sorties against the enemy.

Post-War Contributions: After the war, Vincent earned a graduate degree in aeronautics from MIT. He served in various capacities, including as a test pilot for the Bell XP-59A, America's first jet fighter. He also played a crucial role in the flight test of the MiG-21 under the project "Have Doughnut."

Recognition and Awards: Throughout his career, Vincent received numerous accolades, including the Legion of Merit for his work as commander of FTD's Detachment 3 in Wiesbaden, Germany. He was promoted to major in 1945 and continued to serve in technical intelligence roles, contributing significantly to military research and development.

Personal Life: Vincent married Rosemary McCrone in May 1949, and they had three sons: Drs. Michael, Kevin, and John Rethman. The family lived in various locations, including Guam, Washington D.C., Germany, and several states across the U.S. Vincent retired as a colonel in 1969 and later worked for McDonnell Douglas in St. Louis. He and Rosemary moved to Prescott, Arizona, in 2012.

Legacy: Vincent Rethman passed away on June 18, 2015, in Prescott, Arizona. He was remembered as a remarkable man, a devoted Catholic, and a true American hero. His and Rosemary's remains were interred together at Arlington National Cemetery, a testament to their enduring legacy and service to their country.

Sources:

- Courier Tribune (Seneca, KS) 17 Mar 1941, page 1
- The Kansas City Times (Kansas City, MO) 1 Nov 1941, page 6
- The Falls City Journal (Falls City, NE) 10 Mar 1943, page 1
- Columbian Missourian (Columbia, MO) 10 Mar 1943, page 7
- Blackwell Journal-Tribune (Blackwell, OK) 29 Mar 1943, page 8
- The Emporia Gazette (Emporia, KS) 15 Feb 1945, page 9
- The Plain Dealer (Cleveland, OH) 11 May 1949, page 22
- Dayton Daily News (Dayton, OH) 17 Nov 1968, page 46
- The Plain Dealer (Cleveland, OH) 6 Oct 1998, page 18
- [Vincent Rethman Obituary](https://obits.cleveland.com/us/obituaries/cleveland/name/vincent-rethman-obituary?id=20405727) See <https://obits.cleveland.com/us/obituaries/cleveland/name/vincent-rethman-obituary?id=20405727>.

When I tried the same task in Perplexity with the same prompt, I got a similar biography. However, the sources were lumped together as one since Perplexity took my copied text and 'pasted' it as a file named paste.txt. Even though Perplexity shows 'footnotes' they are all to this long file of text from various sources.

Vincent Carl Rethman was born on February 19, 1916, in Baileyville, Kansas, to Elizabeth (Haug) and Bernard C. Rethman. He grew up on a farm near Seneca, Kansas, and was the fourth of five children, with four sisters: Agnes, Bette, Marie, and Hildelita.

Rethman graduated from the University of Kansas in 1939 with a degree in chemical engineering and completed the ROTC program. Anticipating the coming war, he enlisted in flight training after college.

In March 1941, Rethman began his active military career by attending flying school. He received his commission as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army Chemical Warfare Reserve and was granted a leave of absence from his job at the National Starch Co. in New York City to join the Air Corps as a flying cadet.

During World War II, Rethman flew P-38 Lightnings with the 71st Fighter Squadron, First Fighter Wing of the 12th Air Force. He participated in a historic trans-Atlantic flight of P-38s in July 1942, flying from the United States to England via Labrador, Greenland, Iceland, and Scotland. Rethman flew 69 combat missions during the war, including dangerous missions over North Africa. In one notable incident, he had an engine shot out over Tunisia but managed to fly his P-38 back to base on the remaining engine.

Rethman's wartime achievements earned him several decorations, including the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster. By mid-war, he was selected as one of an elite group of test pilots to fly America's first jet fighter, the Bell XP-59A.

After the war, Rethman pursued further education, earning a master's degree in aeronautical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in just one year. His postwar career in the Air Force focused on research and development at the Pentagon for ten years, followed by 15 years in technical intelligence.

In 1949, Rethman married Rosemary "Rhody" Agnes McCrone in Cleveland, Ohio. They had three sons: Michael, Kevin, and John, all of whom became doctors.

Rethman's later military career included significant intelligence work. He commanded an intelligence unit in West Germany during the mid-1960s and led two classified intelligence missions to the Middle East following the 1967 Six-Day War. He was also involved in the flight testing of the Soviet MiG-21 fighter aircraft in a classified project codenamed "Have Doughnut".

Rethman retired from the Air Force as a Colonel in 1969 after 30 years of service. He then worked for McDonnell Douglas (now Boeing) in St. Louis. In 1987, he and his wife moved to Cleveland and later to Venice, Florida.

Throughout his life, Rethman remained a devout Catholic and was known for his modesty and generosity. In his later years, he advocated for maintaining the name of NASA's Lewis Research Center, emphasizing the importance of honoring researchers in scientific institutions.

Vincent Carl Rethman passed away on June 18, 2015, in Prescott, Arizona, at the age of 99. He was survived by his three sons, their spouses, and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Rethman's remains, along with those of his wife Rosemary (who predeceased him in 2013), were interred at Arlington National Cemetery.

While I prefer the ChatGPT's biography, Perplexity's strength in this situation is the follow-up questions and responses.

What were Vincent Rethman's major achievements in the Air Force

Vincent Rethman had a distinguished career in the United States Air Force with several notable achievements:

1. **Trans-Atlantic Flight and Combat Missions:** Rethman participated in a historic trans-Atlantic flight of P-38 Lightnings in July 1942, flying from the United States to England. He flew 69 combat missions during World War II, including missions over North Africa where he notably managed to return to base on a single engine after being hit.
2. **Aerial Victories:** He was credited with downing enemy aircraft, including a Messerschmitt during an air battle north of Cape Bon in North Africa.
3. **Distinguished Flying Cross:** Rethman was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his participation in the trans-Atlantic flight and for completing 40 sorties against the enemy.
4. **Test Pilot for America's First Jet Fighter:** By mid-war, he was selected as one of an elite group of test pilots to fly the Bell XP-59A, America's first jet fighter.
5. **Legion of Merit:** Rethman received the Legion of Merit for his work as commander of the Foreign Technology Division's Detachment 3 in Wiesbaden, Germany, from 1963 to 1967.
6. **Cold War Intelligence Work:** He commanded an intelligence unit in West Germany during the mid-1960s and led two classified intelligence missions to the Middle East following the 1967 Six-Day War. He was also involved in the flight testing of the Soviet MiG-21 fighter aircraft in a project codenamed "Have Doughnut".

Rethman's career spanned significant advancements in aviation and military technology, and his contributions were recognized with multiple awards and commendations.

What was Vincent Rethman's most notable mission in the Air Force

Vincent Rethman's most notable mission in the Air Force involved his participation in a dangerous operation during World War II over North Africa. This mission took place when German Field Marshal Erwin Rommel was evacuating along the coast of North Africa to Tunisia. Rethman and his squadron flew from Algeria to Libya to intercept and strafe the evacuating troops. During this mission, Rethman's P-38 Lightning had its left engine shot out, but he managed to fly the aircraft back to base on the remaining engine, covering approximately 200 miles. This mission exemplified his bravery and skill as a pilot under extremely hazardous conditions.

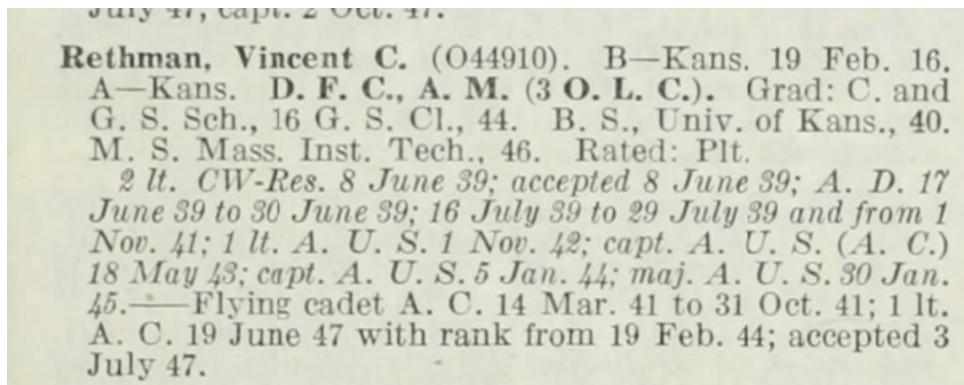
What was Vincent Rethman's involvement in the development of the P-38 Lightning

Vincent Rethman was significantly involved in the operational deployment and combat use of the P-38 Lightning during World War II. His notable contributions include:

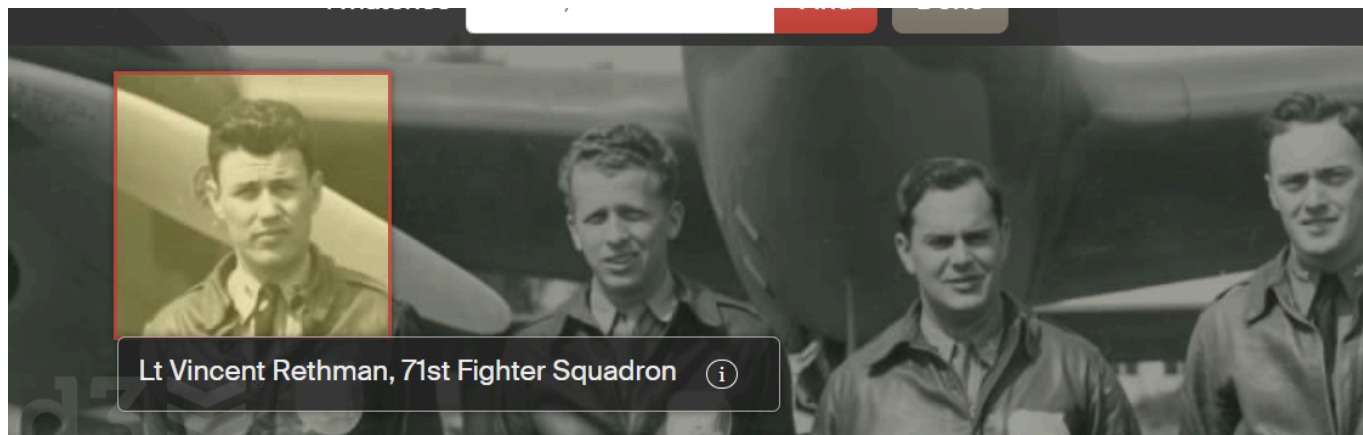
1. **Combat Missions:** Rethman flew 69 combat missions in the P-38 Lightning, primarily with the 71st Fighter Squadron, First Fighter Wing of the 12th Air Force. These missions included dangerous operations over North Africa, where he played a crucial role in intercepting and attacking German forces evacuating along the coast of North Africa to Tunisia.
2. **Aerial Victories:** He was credited with downing enemy aircraft, including a Messerschmitt during an air battle north of Cape Bon in North Africa. This achievement highlighted his combat prowess and effectiveness as a P-38 pilot.
3. **Trans-Atlantic Flight:** Rethman participated in a historic trans-Atlantic flight of P-38 Lightnings in July 1942, flying from the United States to England. This flight was significant as it was one of the first mass movements of fighter aircraft across the North Atlantic, demonstrating the P-38's long-range capabilities.
4. **Distinguished Flying Cross:** His participation in the trans-Atlantic flight and his completion of 40 sorties against the enemy earned him the Distinguished Flying Cross, underscoring his contributions to the effective use of the P-38 in combat operations.

Rethman's involvement with the P-38 Lightning was marked by his bravery, skill, and significant contributions to the Allied air efforts during World War II.

A quick search of Fold3 helps fill in the holes in Vincent Rethman's military career. He is shown on the 'Active List' serving in Korea in 1948. ("1948 Korea," U.S. Army Registers 1798-1969, page 1515, available on Fold3.)



And Fold3 has an excellent photo of Lt. Vincent Rethman as a member of the 71st Fighter Squadron.



Saturday Night Genealogy Fun

Calling all [Genea-Musings](https://www.geneamusings.com/) See <https://www.geneamusings.com/>. Fans:

It's Saturday Night again –

Time for some more Genealogy Fun!!

Come on, everybody, join in and accept the mission and execute it with precision.

1) When was the last time you visited the FamilySearch Library in Salt Lake City, or visited a local FamilySearch Center?

2) What record collections are on your To-Do List, whether at the FamilySearch Library, or a FamilySearch Center, or the Full-Text Search feature online, or Digital Microfilm on the Images or Catalog Link on the [FamilySearch.org](http://familysearch.org/) See <http://familysearch.org/> website?

Have I been to the FamilySearch Library in Salt Lake City?

Yes, I've visited three times.

Have I used a local FamilySearch center?

Yes, I've accessed the centers in Topeka and Emporia, Kansas.

Do I remember the last time I visited the Salt Lake City library?

No, but it was likely before 1992.

Do I remember the last time I visited a local FamilySearch center?

No, I don't recall.

Do I have a FamilySearch 'To Do' list?

Absolutely!

However, most items on my 'To Do' list can be handled either from home or at an Affiliate Library. With the Seneca Free Library—an [affiliate library](https://heartlandgenealogy.org/2024/07/03/affiliate-libraries/) See <https://heartlandgenealogy.org/2024/07/03/affiliate-libraries/>.—just half a mile from my house, a special trip isn't necessary. As a result, I don't accumulate a long list of research tasks.

I'm also fortunate to live within a few hours' drive of the [Midwest Genealogy Center](https://www.mymcpl.org/genealogy) See <https://www.mymcpl.org/genealogy>. in Independence, Missouri. On my last visit, I discovered they have an extensive collection of microfiche and microfilm from the Family History Library that hasn't yet been digitized. This resource allows me to access materials that many travel to Salt Lake City to view.

I'm planning another trip to the Midwest Genealogy Center this fall.



Thanks Randy Seaver for this challenge!

AI Spreadsheet Help

Have you used AI to edit a spreadsheet?

I recently embarked on a project using Ancestry's search feature to compile a list of Find A Grave records for individuals buried in Nemaha County, Kansas, who were born in Germany. The resulting spreadsheet presented a common challenge: all names were in a single field, combining first, middle, and last names.

ID	Name	Count
1	Jacob Fulk	7
2	Sr Eustochia Haug	22
3	Marie Helen Stueve	10
4	Agnes Dalinghaus	2
5	Anna Brokamp	14
6	August Haverkamp	9
7	August Hellebuch	

Theoretically, I could have used Excel's 'Text to Columns' tool to separate these names. However, this approach has its limitations. For instance, names like Jacob Fulk would be split into two columns, while names like Marie Helen Stueve would be divided into three. This discrepancy would require additional effort to ensure all surnames ended up in the same column.

So, I asked [ChatGPT](https://chatgpt.com/) See <https://chatgpt.com/>. to help.

For the attached file, the name appears in first middle last name order with some names missing a middle name. Please split the name field so that the last name is in a column by itself.

Nemaha County Burials With Split Names				
	View Record	First Name	Middle Name	Last Name
1	View Record	Jacob		Fulk

ChatGPT efficiently split the names into three distinct columns: First Name, Middle Name, and Last Name. Impressively, it even handled entries with two middle names correctly.

188	Mary	Elizabeth	Voet	Mary Elizabeth Voet
189	Sophia	Marie Frederika	Behrens	Sophia Marie Frederika Behrens
190	William		Hardt	William Hardt
191	Bernard		Stegeman	Bernard Stegeman
192	Charles	Girard	Hasenkamp	Charles Girard Hasenkamp
193	Friedrich		Schumacher	Friedrich Schumacher
194	Henry		Baurman	Henry Baurman
195	Hermann	Heinrich Wilhelm	Meyer	Hermann Heinrich Wilhelm Meyer
196	John		Sorg	John Sorg

During the process, I encountered an issue: the date formatting (dd mmm yyyy) for some entries was lost.

10 Jan 1875	10/10/1940 Sai
7 Dec 1838	3/23/1916 Sai
26 Aug 1826	12 Apr 1899 Sai
12/12/1904	11 Apr 1881 Sai
10 Jul 1885	1/12/1905 Sai
10 May 1810	8/18/1901 Sai
9 Jun 1838	11/7/1918 Sai
28 Mar 1824	1/28/1904 Sai
23 Aug 1844	10/28/1910 Sai
26 Apr 1826	4/4/1908 Sai

Rather than struggling with Excel to restore the correct cell formatting, I sought help from ChatGPT once again.

For the attached file change the birth date and death dates from the short date format to the following: dd mmm yyyy



Nemaha County Burials With Formatted Dates				
	Name	Birth Date	Death Date	Burial or
25	Frank H. Wehman	17 Apr 1893	23 May 1993	United States
26	Frank Heinrich Kohake	08 Jul 1888	28 May 1993	Baileyville, County, United States

Thanks [ChatGPT](https://chatgpt.com/) See <https://chatgpt.com/>. for your help with this spreadsheet!

(Note: ChatGPT was used to write the meta description for this post and to edit some of the post.)

Purple Heart

Moses F Tate

Staff Sergeant Moses Frank Tate, born on May 22, 1920, in Seneca, Nemaha County, Kansas, led a distinguished but tragically short military career during World War II. He enlisted in the U.S. Army on June 24, 1940, following in the footsteps of his father, a World War I veteran. Initially stationed at Fort Riley and later undergoing extensive training in the Air Corps, Moses quickly rose through the ranks to become a skilled aerial gunner.

By 1943, S/Sgt. Tate was serving in the 415th Bombardment Squadron, 98th Bombardment Group, part of the Ninth Air Force. His unit was pivotal in Operation Tidal Wave, a daring low-altitude bombing mission targeting the heavily defended oil refineries at Ploiești, Romania, on August 1, 1943. This mission aimed to cripple the Axis powers by striking a vital source of their oil supply, a goal critical to the Allied war effort.

The mission was fraught with peril, as the B-24 Liberators flew in at tree-top level to avoid radar detection but exposed themselves to intense anti-aircraft fire. Tate's aircraft, the B-24D named "YEN TU," piloted by 1st Lt. Edward T. McGuire, was hit by flak as it approached the target. Despite the damage, the crew pressed on to complete their bombing run. Tragically, after releasing their payload, the aircraft succumbed to its injuries, crashing near Barcanesti, Romania. Tate, along with six other crew members, was declared missing in action. He was only 23 years old.

The initial chaos and devastation of the crash led to S/Sgt. Tate being listed among the many missing. In the aftermath of the war, his remains were not immediately identified. For decades, his family held out hope, receiving medals and letters of commendation that recognized his bravery and sacrifice. These included the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal, and the Purple Heart.

In 2017, efforts by the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) to identify unknown remains from the Ploiești raid bore fruit. Through advanced forensic methods, including anthropological and dental analysis, the remains of S/Sgt. Moses Frank Tate were positively identified on July 12, 2022. Nearly 80 years after his death, Tate was finally brought home.

S/Sgt. Tate's name is inscribed on the Tablets of the Missing at the Florence American Cemetery in Italy. Following his identification, a bronze rosette was added beside his name, signifying his return. He was laid to rest with full military honors at the Missouri Veterans Cemetery in Springfield, Greene County, Missouri, in Section M, Row 17, Site 709.

S/Sgt. Moses Frank Tate's story is a testament to the bravery and sacrifice of the Greatest Generation. His participation in one of the most challenging and critical missions of World War II, Operation Tidal Wave, underscores the significant risks faced by the Allied airmen. His posthumous return home serves as a poignant reminder of the enduring commitment to honor those who gave their lives in service to their country.



Sources:

1. Find a Grave Memorials:

- Find a Grave Memorial 179942848: S/Sgt Moses Frank Tate
- Find a Grave Memorial 244713511: S/Sgt Moses Frank Tate
- Find a Grave Memorial 56366953: S/Sgt Moses Frank Tate

2. Military Records:

- U.S. Army Service No. (ASN): #7060824
- Missing Air Crew Report (MACR) for B-24D "YEN TU" Serial Number 42-40520
- Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal, Purple Heart awards

3. Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA):

- Announcement of S/Sgt Moses F. Tate being accounted for on July 12, 2022

4. Courier Tribune (Seneca, Kansas):

- 14 July 1940: Mention of Moses Tate joining the army
- 2 September 1940: Visit home from Fort Riley
- 26 December 1940: Spending Christmas with family
- 30 March 1942: Training in the air corps
- 7 May 1942: Report of Marvin Tate joining the Navy
- 6 August 1942: Updates on Moses and Marvin Tate's service
- 17 December 1942: Letter from Marvin and updates on Moses
- 16 November 1942: Announcement of Moses Tate as an aerial gunner
- 20 May 1943: Family's military history

- 2 September 1943: Marvin Tate's V-Mail letter
 - 27 September 1943: Recognition of Moses Tate's service
 - 9 December 1943: Parents receiving Distinguished Service medal
 - 9 November 1944: Parents receiving Purple Heart
 - 18 June 1945: Parents receiving pictures from Ploiești raid
5. **Lincoln Journal Star (Lincoln, NE):**
- 4 January 1945: Report on the Ploiești oil raids and missing airmen
6. **Perplexity:**
- Overview and details about Operation Tidal Wave
 - Recovery and subsequent burial of S/Sgt Moses Tate's remains
7. **US, WWII Army Enlistment Records, 1938-1946:**
- Enlistment details and service records of Moses F. Tate

The above was written by ChatGPT from the transcriptions of the various sources.

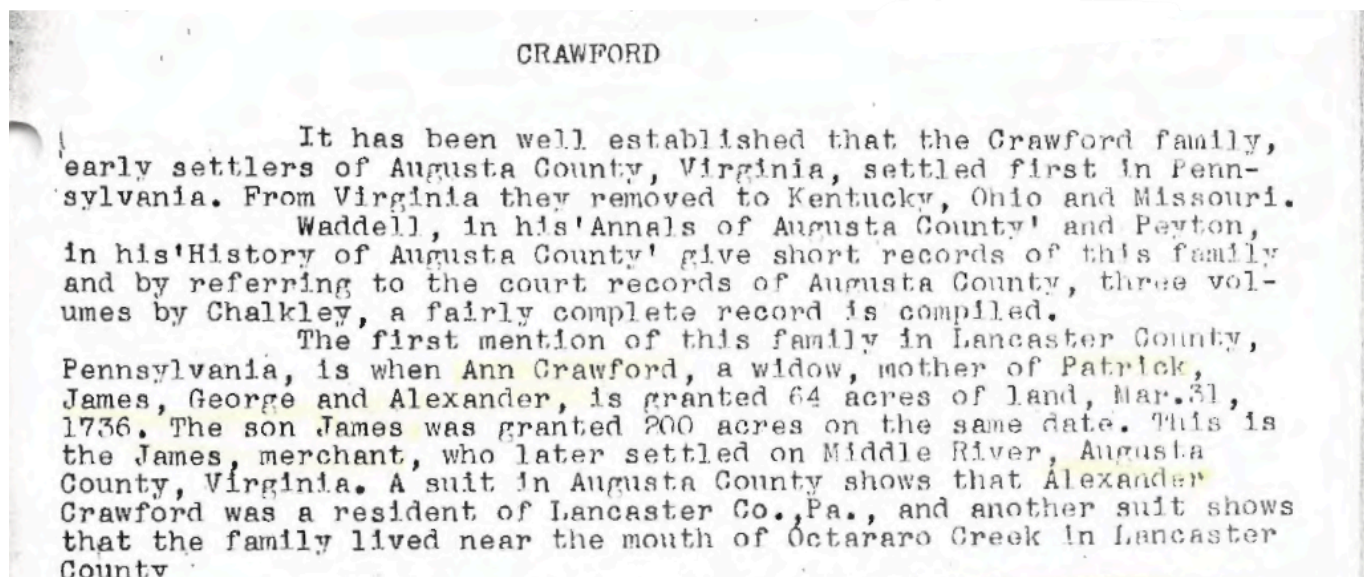
Crawford Genealogy

Miami Valley Genealogies

Are you researching the CRAWFORD family in or near Augusta county, Virginia? If so, you might already be familiar with Alexander Crawford and his wife Mary McPheeters.

When I first started researching my Crawford line, I tried to prove a connection to Alexander and Mary. However, after a thorough investigation, I found that my ancestor, James Crawford (1772-1854) does not fit as a descendant of Alexander.

Recently, while revisiting some of my research, I uncovered photocopies from volume 2 of [Miami Valley Genealogies by Lindsay Brien](https://search.worldcat.org/title/41077878) See <https://search.worldcat.org/title/41077878>. This book devotes four pages to outlining the family of Ann Crawford and her sons Patrick, James, George and Alexander.



Although the information is not extensively sourced, it can still be immensely helpful when working with Crawford records from early Augusta county. The details provided might offer valuable insights and clues for researching these early Crawford families.

Overstreet – Crawford Deed

After a visit to the Seneca Free Library, I uncovered additional Montgomery County, Virginia deeds related to the Crawfords before 1800. Today's featured deed involves the executors of Thomas Overstreet's estate and William Crawford. The Thomas Overstreet of the deed may be [Thomas Overstreet SR \[GMRK-X8T\]](https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/GMRK-X8T) See <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/GMRK-X8T>. Although the FamilySearch tree lacks sourcing, the WikiTree profile for [Thomas Overstreet](https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Overstreet-333) See <https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Overstreet-333>. includes some sources.

Identifying the William Crawford named in the deed remains a challenge. For those with a William Crawford from early Montgomery County, Virginia, the land description might provide a clue. The property "runs into" the Roanoak at the upper end of William Walton's bottom.

Montgomery County Virginia
Fincastle and MONTgomery Couties Deeds Vol. B 1788-1794

Film 32608 DGS 7645566

Image 64 of 276
page 107

This Indenture made this the twenty eighth day of September in the year of our Lord one Thousand seven hundred and Ninety three Between Thomas Over street of the County of Bedford in Virginia Executioner to the Estate of Thomas Overstreet Deceased of the one part and William Crawford of Montgomery County of the other part Witnesseth that the said Thomas Overstreet [Exrs & c] in Compliance to a contract made by the said Thomas Overstreet Deceased and for and in Consideration of the sum of twenty pounds Lawful Money of Virginia to him in hand paid the Receipt whereof the said Thomas Overstreet Exr ye doth hereby acknowledge and thereof acquit and discharge the said William Crawford his heirs Executors and administrators , and the said Thomas Overstreet hath given granted Bargained Sold Enfossed and confirmed and by these presents doth give grant bargain sell enfoss and Confirm unto the said William Crawford his heirs Executors Admrs and assigns one Certain tract or parcel of land lying and being in the County of Montgomery on a branch that runs into Roanoak at the upper end of William Waltons Bottom and Bounded as followeth to wit Beginning at a Red Oak and white oak on the Bank of the branch and Running thence South Seventy three Degrees West one hundred and Sixty poles to a black oak and White Oak thence South thirty one Degrees West one hundred and fifty two poles to a pine and White oak thence south sixty four degrees East one hundred and Eighty eight poles to a Chesnut Oak thence south twenty eight degrees East forty pole to three pines by a Gully thence North fifty four Degrees East fifty poles to two White Oaks thence North Eighty three degrees East one hundred poles to a Black Oak and ash thence North twenty one Degrees West two hundred and sixty two poles

page 108

to the Beginning Containing three hundred and fifty Acres To have and to hold[the] said Tract of Land and Every of its appurtenances to the sole use and behoof of the said William Crawford and his heirs &c with all the profits Commodities Hereditaments and appurtenances whatsoever to the premises hereby granted on any part thereof belonging or in any wise appertaining to have and hold the said tract of land with its appurtenances to the said William Crawford his heirs Executors administrators and assigns forever and lastly That the said Thomas Overstreet him his heirs Executors and Admrs all and singularly the premises hereby granted with its appurtenances unto the said William Crawford his heirs Executors administrators and assigns and against him the said Thomas Overstreet his heirs Executors and Admr all and Every other person or persons whatsoever shall and will warrent and forever defend by these presents In Witness whereof the said Thomas Overstreet in Compliance as above mentioned hath hereunto set his hand and affixed his seal the day and year above Written Thomas Overstreet

Signed sealed and Delivered

In the presence of us

William Henderson

John Miller

Phebe (her mark) Miller

Casper (his mark) Albright

Memorandum that on the day and year within Written Quiet and peaceable possession and [Livery of Seisen] was had and taken of the within Mentioned land and premises by the said William Crawford [?] the said Thomas Overstell hath received the within Mentioned Consideration for the said land Tenement and premises

Thomas Overstreet

William Henderson

John Miller

Phebe (her mark) Miller mark ,

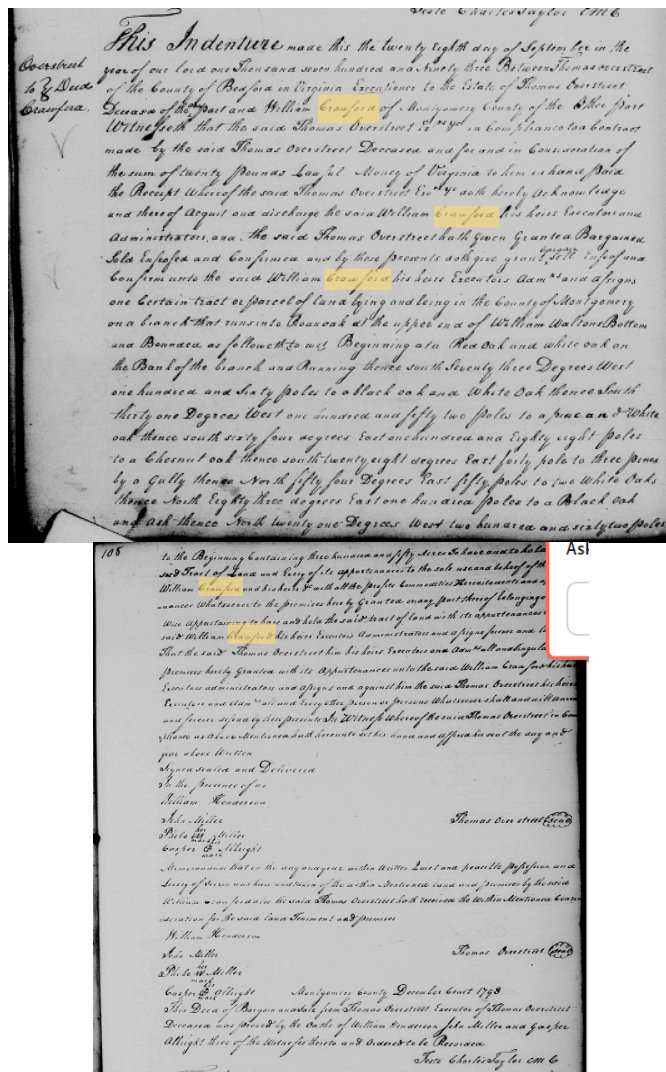
Casper (his mark) Albright

Montgomery County December Court 1798

This Deed of Bargain and Sale from Thomas Overstreet Executor of Thomas Overstreet Deceased was proved by the Oaths of William Henderson John Miller and Gasper Albright three of the Witnesses thereto and Ordered to be Recorded
Teste Charles Taylor CMC

Citation:

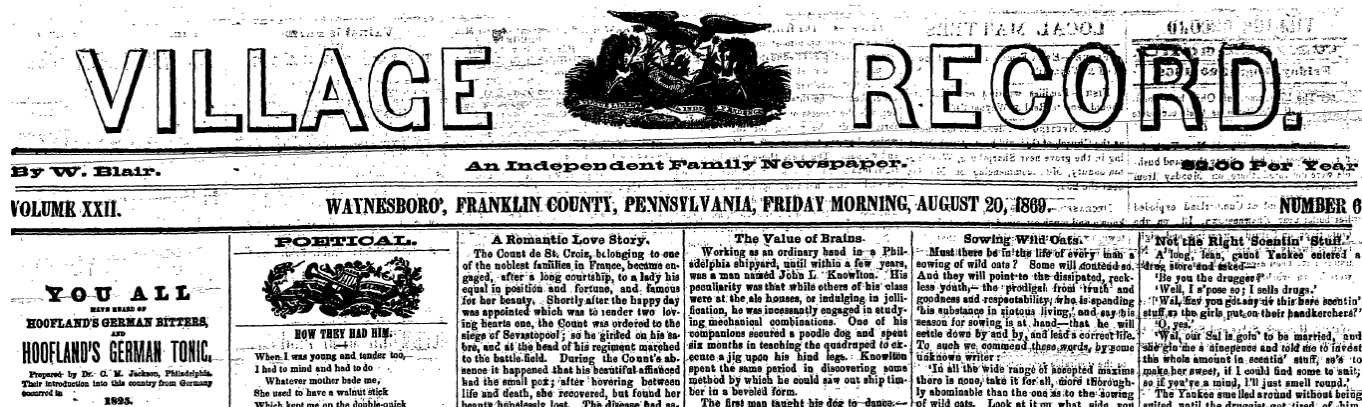
“Montgomery, Virginia, United States records,” images, FamilySearch (<https://http://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q57-99P6-54Z3?view=fullText> : Jul 27, 2024), image 64 of 276; .
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q57-99P6-54Z3?view=fullText>



Friday Find

Elizabeth Minnick

Do you have images of entire newspapers in your files? If so, can you easily locate the article of interest? While reviewing my MINNICK resources, I found images from the 20 August 1869 issue of the Village Record.



Since I couldn't determine how this newspaper aided my Minnick research, I decided to search Newspapers.com.

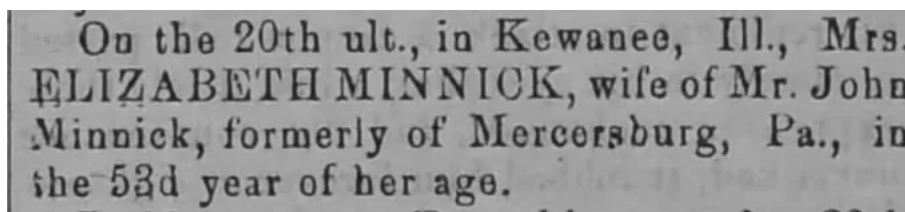
Waynesboro Record (Wanesboro, PA)

20 Aug 1869

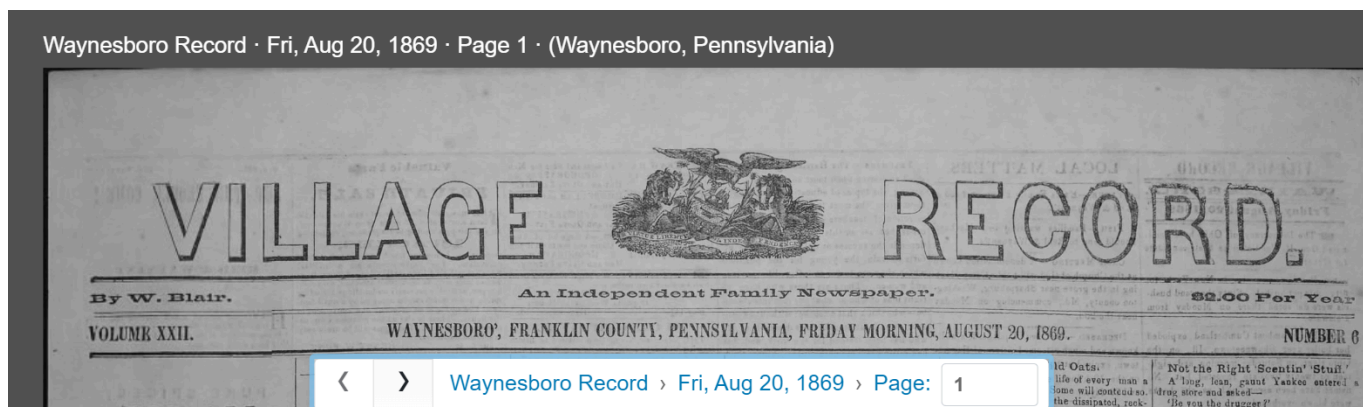
page 2

The Tomb

On the 20th ult. in Kewanee, Ill, Mrs. Elizabeth Minnick, wife of John Minnick, formerly of Mercersburg, PA, in the 53d year of her age.



Although Newspapers.com identifies the paper as the Waynesboro Record, the front page reveals that it is the Village Record.



Thankfully, I found the article on Newspapers.com since the online image is more legible than my PDF file.

Saturday Tidbits

Today's tidbit involves both the CCC camp southeast of Seneca, Kansas and military related news in March of 1941.

PLAN SCHOOL FOR DEFENSE

AT SENECA CAMP

Details Are Being Worked Out for Special Training Course

The Soil Conservation service is promoting plans for a special defense course in machine-shop work, to be given at the Seneca camp.

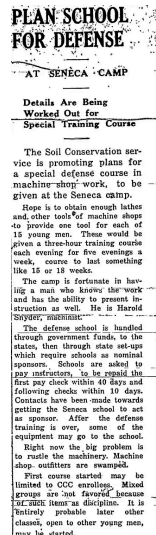
Hope is to obtain enough lathes and other tools of machine shops to provide one tool for each of 15 young men. These would be given a three-hour training course each evening for five evenings a week, course to last something like 15 or 18 weeks.

The camp is fortunate in having a man who knows the work and has the ability to present instruction as well. He is Harold Snyder, machinist.

The defense school is handled through government funds, to the states, then through state set-ups which require schools as nominal sponsors. Schools are asked to pay instructors, to be repaid the first pay check within 40 days and following checks within 10 days. Contacts have been made towards getting the Seneca school to act as sponsor. After the defense training is over, some of the equipment may go to the school.

Right now the big problem is to rustle the machinery. Machine shop-outfitters are swamped.

First course started may be limited to CCC enrollees. Mixed groups are not favored because of such items as discipline. It is entirely probable later other classes, open to other young men, may be started.¹See page .



1. Courier Tribune (Seneca, Kansas), 27 March 1941, page 1 [See page .](#)

Saturday Night Genealogy Fun

Calling all [Genea-Musings](https://www.geneamusings.com/) See <https://www.geneamusings.com/>.Fans:

It's Saturday Night again –

Time for some more Genealogy Fun!!

Come on, everybody, join in and accept the mission and execute it with precision.

- 1) How many known ancestors (at least a name) do you have in your generation of 4th great-grandparents? What about your significant other's generation of 4th great-grandparents?
- 2) Tell us how you figured this out, and highlight your most recent additions to your list.

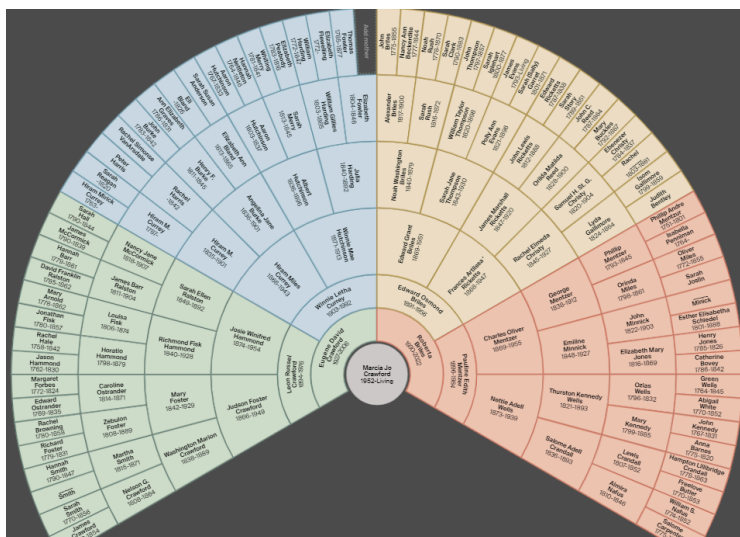
To determine the answer, I took the following steps:

- I opened my Ancestry tree and switched to a 7-generation FAN chart.
- I counted the number of ancestors in each colored area of the chart.
- I recorded these numbers in an Excel table for easy comparison.

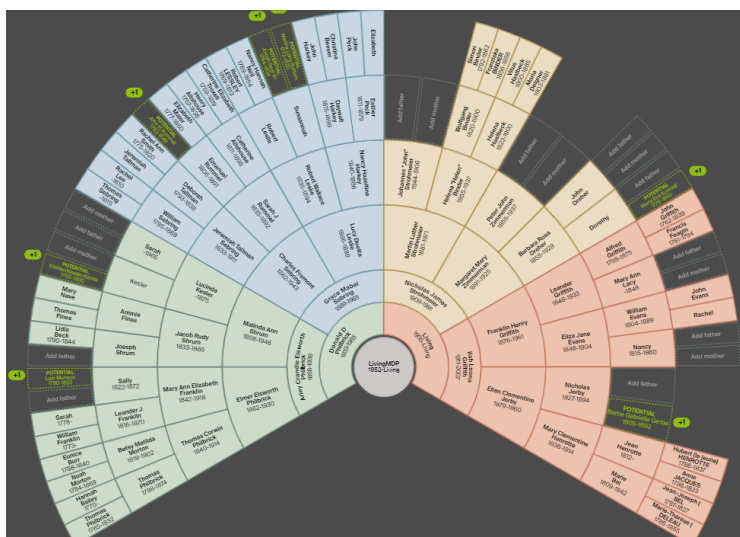
I specifically used the 7-generation FAN chart because it conveniently displays all 4th great-grandparents on a single chart.

I avoided using the FamilySearch tree because other users could have added 4th great-grandparents who aren't actually part of my tree, which could lead to inaccuracies.

Although I could have used RootsMagic to generate a similar chart, my husband's tree is in his RootsMagic file, separate from mine. Therefore, using RootsMagic wouldn't have provided the information I needed for his tree.



My Tree



My Husband's Tree

My Tree vs. My Husband's Tree

In my tree, I have identified 61 of my 4th great-grandparents, whereas my husband's tree includes only 34. The primary difference is that my ancestry is predominantly colonial, while my husband's lineage includes several lines of immigrants who arrived after 1850.

Thank you Randy for this intriguing challenge.

How do you track you genealogy FAN club?

Genealogy and Artificial Intelligence (AI)



Are there any sites or apps that specialize in facilitating FAN club research - correlating evidence between neighborhood census data, church records, and other documents? I'm only getting so far with Excel. My dream would be an app that takes the US or U.K. census data for a neighborhood, puts it in a spreadsheet format, and would automatically perform a one-to-one list comparison/analysis to match

Bazeleel Maxwell-10229 (LTBF-B5H)

☐ Show relative events
+ 🗑️ ⋮

Fact	Details					
Person	Bazeleel Maxwell-10229					
Spouse	Margaret Anderson-10222	▼				
Parents	Captain John Maxwell-14022 and Frances Gardner-14023	▼				
Groups	AA Crawford Fan Club Timeline; Crawford Fan Club; Dead; Heartland2018; Marcia Tree excludin					
WebTags	<No WebTags>					

Age	Facts	Date	Details				
-	Military	1774	in the Fincastle County Virginia Militia as a me				-
-	Military	1775	in Captain Shelby's Company in expedition age				-
-	Witness-Will	7 April 1779	Montgomery, Virginia, United States John Crawford-6251				4

< Shared with

- + Share fact
- Shared James Crawford-1443-Witness
- Shared Bazeleel Maxwell-10229-Witness
- Shared Rebekah Douglas-168-Witness
- Shared George Douglass-10320-Witness

Details

Name: James Crawford-1443

Role: Witness

8 August 2024

Unfortunately, a timeline report does not include the witnessed event.

Timeline List for Bazeleel Maxwell-10229

8 August 2024

Age	Date	Event
	1774	Military: in the Fincastle County Virginia Militia as a member of Capt. Doak's Company ¹
	1775	Military: in Captain Shelby's Company in expedition against the Indians ²
	28 Jun 1782	Land Entry: Kentucky, United States ³
	28 Jun 1782	Land Entry: Kentucky, United States ³
	1798	Residence (fam): Margaret Anderson-10222; Garrard, Kentucky, United States ⁴

Timeline List

Choose report settings, then click "Generate Report"

Settings

Title

Timeline List for Bazeleel Maxwell-10229

>

Timeline type

Group timeline list

>

Person

Bazeleel Maxwell-10229

>

People to include

AA Crawford Fan Club Timeline

>

Private facts

☐ Print private facts

Include places

☒ Include places

Preparer

☐ Print preparer info

Layout

Page

Letter (8.50"x11.00")

>

Header/Footer

Header and Footer

>

Appearance

Styles

Styles and Fonts

>

References

Sources

Endnotes

>

While the timeline report for a group can help document movement of the group, the report is incomplete without these shared events.

8 August 2024

Timeline List for Bazeleel Maxwell-10229

Date	Event	Person	Place
1779	Marriage ^{87,94-95}	James Crawford-1443 and Rebecca Anderson-1444	Montgomery, Virginia, United States
7 Apr 1779	Will ^{94,96-99}	John Crawford-6251	Montgomery, Virginia, United States
8 Sep 1779	Land-Sold	William Crawford-10065	Rockbridge, Colony of Virginia, British America
26 Oct 1779	Occupation ^{12,39,55}	James Crawford-8378	licensed to preach; Hampden-Sydney, Virginia

Based on how I've used shared events, they are useful when looking at an individual but not useful when working with a group such as a FAN club.

Thus, I started looking at other ways to potentially document these connections in RootsMagic. That's when I remembered a feature from RootsMagic 9 that I had not implemented: Associations.

New "Associations" Feature in RootsMagic 9

<https://youtube.com/watch?v=URvuXuuH4jw>



After viewing the Associations video, I configured several for my Crawford FAN Club, including one for John Crawford's will.

Association	
Association type	Will Witness
Testator	John Crawford-6251
Witness	Bazeleel Maxwell-10229
Date	7 April 1779
Sort date	10 April 1779
Place	Montgomery, Virginia, United States
Place details	
Description	
Switch roles for the 2 people	
Association Items	
Note	
Sources	1
Media	0
Tasks	0
Sentence Bazeleel Maxwell witnessed the will of John Crawford on 7 April 1779 in Montgomery county, Virginia.	

Besides the will, I also created Association events for a deed, two marriage license applications, and some tax and census records. These are a few of the records that tie together the three James Crawford lines found in Garrard County, Kentucky and connect them to other families in the area including Sellers, Douglass, Anderson and Dooley. The Association List Report (individual) will generate a list of these associations with three formatting choices for the output.

Settings	
Title	Association Report of Rebekah Douglas-168
Start person	Rebekah Douglas-168
List format	Name (role) date - place
Numbering style	Name (role) date - place
Levels	Name/Role/Date/Place in columns
Indent	Narrative
Lead dots	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Print lead dots before names (lists only)
Notes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Include notes (narr. only)
Private notes	<input type="checkbox"/> Include (private) notes
Strip brackets	<input type="checkbox"/> Strip () brackets
Color coding	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Print color coding
Place details	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Print place details
Preparer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Print preparer info
Layout	
Page	Letter (8.50"x11.00")
Header/Footer	Header and Footer
Appearance	
Styles	Styles and Fonts
References	
Index	Name, Birth, and Death; No Place Index
Sources	Endnotes

Using Rebekah Douglas as the starting individual, the report includes all three James Crawfords.

Association Report of Rebekah Douglas-168 8 August 2024

1-Rebekah Douglas-168
 2-John Crawford-6251 (Testator) 7 April 1779 - Montgomery, Virginia, United States
 3-Bazeleel Maxwell-10229 (Witness) 7 April 1779 - Montgomery, Virginia, United States
 4-James Crawford-1443 (Associate) 1782 - Montgomery, Virginia, United States
 5-Samuel Anderson-10228 (Grantor) 3 Oc - being 200 acres of land adjoining Joseph Kennedy on the north and bounded on the south by land conveyed to William and John Anderson and bounded on the East by land of William Morrison
 6-Capt Samuel Campbell-14085 (Grantee) 3 October 1798 - Madison, Kentucky, United States
 6-Mary Anderson-10223 (Grantee) 3 October 1798 - Madison, Kentucky, United States
 6-James Anderson-10226 (Grantee) 3 October 1798 - Madison, Kentucky, United States
 6-Hannah Wallace-10231 (Grantee) 3 October 1798 - Madison, Kentucky, United States
 6-Anne Anderson-10225 (Grantee) 3 October 1798 - Madison, Kentucky, United States
 6-John Gass-10232 (Grantee) 3 October 1798 - Madison, Kentucky, United States
 6-Margaret Anderson-10222 (Grantee) 3 October 1798 - Madison, Kentucky, United States
 6-Betsey Anderson-10224 (Grantee) 3 October 1798 - Madison, Kentucky, United States
 6-William M. Morrison-10478 (Associate) 3 October 1798 - Madison, Kentucky, United States
 6-Rebecca Anderson-1444 (Associate) 3 October 1798 - Madison, Kentucky, United States
 6-John Anderson-10083 (Father) -
 3-George Douglass-10320 (Witness) 7 April 1779 - Montgomery, Virginia, United States
 2-Mary Crawford-170 (Bride) 19 December 1791 - Lincoln, Kentucky, United States
 3-James Crawford-171 (Witness) 19 December 1791 - Lincoln, Kentucky, United States
 4-James Sellers-174 (Groom) 19 December 1791 - Lincoln, Kentucky, United States
 5-William David Sellers-5228 (Witness) 19 December 1791 - Lincoln, Kentucky, United States
 6-James Crawford-219 (Owner) 1 June 1816 - Preble, Ohio, United States
 5-Sarah Crawford-171 (Bride) 2 February 1796 - Lincoln, Kentucky, United States
 4-Sarah Crawford-171 (Bride) 2 February 1796 - Lincoln, Kentucky, United States
 4-William David Sellers-5228 (Groom) 2 February 1796 - Lincoln, Kentucky, United States

The narrative version of the Association report makes it easier to understand the relationships.

- Virginia.
- 2-Mary Crawford was given permission to marry by Rebekah Douglas on 19 December 1791 [PlaceDetail] in Lincoln County, Kentucky.⁴
 - 3-James Crawford witnessed the marriage license of Mary Crawford on 19 December 1791 in Lincoln County, Kentucky.⁴
 - 4-James Sellers's marriage license was witnessed by James Crawford on 19 December 1791 in Lincoln County, Kentucky.⁴
 - 5-William David Sellers witnessed the marriage license of James Sellers on 19 December 1791 in Lincoln County, Kentucky.
 - 6-James Crawford and William David Sellers purchased land together on 1 June 1816 in Preble County, Ohio.⁵
 - 5-Sarah Crawford's marriage license was witnessed by James Sellers on 2 February 1796 in Lincoln County, Kentucky.⁶
 - 4-Sarah Crawford's marriage license was witnessed by James Crawford on 2 February 1796 in Lincoln County, Kentucky.⁶
 - 4-William David Sellers's marriage license was witnessed by James Crawford on 2 February 1796 in Lincoln County, Kentucky.⁶
 - 5-James Crawford was a neighbor of William David Sellers in 1820 in Washington Township.

Unfortunately, the narrative version drops the individual's number making it look like it is referring to one person named James Crawford.

This report is also seems to be one dimensional. For example, the narrative report for Rebekah Douglas indicates that Bazeleel Maxwell witnessed the will of John Crawford (her husband). However, it does not indicate that James Crawford also witnessed the will. Instead it says that James was an 'associate' of Bazeleel Maxwell.

1-Rebekah Douglas-168

- 2-John Crawford's will names Rebekah Douglas as a beneficiary in his will on 7 April 1779 in Montgomery county, Virginia.¹
- 3-Bazeleel Maxwell witnessed the will of John Crawford on 7 April 1779 in Montgomery county, Virginia.¹
- 4-James Crawford was an associate of Bazeleel Maxwell in 1782 in Montgomery, Virginia, United States.²
- 5-Samuel Anderson sold land to James Crawford in 3 Oc in being 200 acres of land adjoining Joseph Kennedy on the north and bounded on the south by land conveyed to William and John Anderson and bounded on the East by land of William Morrison.³

Another issue with the narrative version of the report the inability to distinguish people of the same name. Without the numbers following the name, one could read this report and assume that all mentions of James Crawford refer to one individual instead of three.

While using the ASSOCIATES feature in RootsMagic will help me document my FAN club, it still does not convey all of the connections between the FAN club members.

Purple Heart

Arlie W. Higgins

Arlie William Higgins was born on September 2, 1906, in America City, Kansas. A man of strong character and dedication, he pursued higher education at Kansas State College in Manhattan, where he graduated in 1929. His academic journey did not end there; he went on to earn a Master of Science degree in Educational Administration from the same institution in 1934, writing his thesis on "A Study of Compulsory Education in the State of Kansas." This achievement was a testament to his commitment to both education and personal growth.

After completing his studies, Higgins embarked on a career in education, serving as a high school teacher and principal in Kansas. He worked at high schools in Ingalls and Florence, where his leadership and passion for education were evident. However, his career took a turn when the national defense program called him away from teaching. As a member of the Reserve Officers Corps, Higgins was summoned to active duty in the U.S. Army in 1940, where he served as a captain in the 3rd Infantry at Fort Crook, Nebraska. His military responsibilities soon took precedence, and he, along with his wife Venita Grace Schade, relocated to Fort Crook.

By 1941, Captain Higgins was stationed at Camp Leonard Wood, Missouri, where he continued to serve until his deployment to the Philippines later that year. The outbreak of World War II brought new challenges, and Higgins was soon embroiled in the conflict in the Pacific. He participated in the defense of the Philippines during the Japanese invasion and was eventually sent to an island approximately 400 miles from Manila. Despite the chaos and danger, Higgins managed to survive the initial Japanese attacks without injury.

In the early days of the war, Higgins was promoted to the rank of major. However, his situation grew dire as the Philippines fell to Japanese forces. In 1942, Major Higgins, along with thousands of other American and Filipino soldiers, was captured and became a prisoner of war. He was held in various Japanese prison camps, including the infamous Military Prison No. 2 in the Philippines. During his imprisonment, he managed to send occasional messages to his wife, Venita, and his mother, Hester, providing some reassurance of his well-being.

Tragically, Major Higgins' story did not have a happy ending. In October 1944, he was among 1,775 prisoners aboard the Japanese transport ship Arisan Maru, which was en route from Manila to Japan. On October 24, 1944, the ship was torpedoed and sunk by an American submarine in the South China Sea, approximately 200 miles off the coast of China. The sinking resulted in one of the deadliest maritime disasters of the war, with nearly all prisoners, including Major Higgins, losing their lives.

The news of Higgins' death was a severe blow to his family and the community of Seneca, Kansas, where he was well-known and respected. His mother, Hester Higgins, and his wife, Venita, had held onto hope for his return throughout his years of captivity. Major Higgins' bravery and dedication to his country were remembered by those who knew him, and his legacy was honored at Kansas State College, where he and another local serviceman, Raymond Ruben Rokey, were commemorated in the All-Faith Chapel built in memory of alumni and students who served in World War II.

Major Arlie William Higgins is also memorialized at the Manila American Cemetery and Memorial in the Philippines, where his name is inscribed on the Tablets of the Missing. His sacrifice, along with that of countless others, serves as a poignant reminder of the cost of war and the enduring legacy of those who gave their lives in the pursuit of freedom.

The above was written by ChatGPT from transcriptions of the various newspaper articles and answers from Perplexity.

Here is the list of sources used for the narrative about Arlie W. Higgins:

- Find a Grave Memorial ID 30464508:
 - Birth and death information, burial details, and a Purple Heart image on the memorial.
- Courier Tribune (Seneca, KS):
 - August 6, 1934, page 1: Information about Arlie W. Higgins receiving his Master's Degree.
 - November 28, 1940, page 2: Details about Higgins being called from teaching by the national defense program.
 - July 10, 1941, page 3: Mention of Higgins stationed at Camp Leonard Wood and weekend trips to Lake of the Ozarks.
 - October 6, 1941, page 3: Mention of Higgins expected to return from maneuvers in Louisiana.
 - December 22, 1941, page 1: Report of Higgins surviving the initial Japanese attack on Manila.
 - January 29, 1942: Note on Higgins' presence in the Philippines as an army captain.
 - February 9, 1942: Information on Higgins' safety communicated to his mother.
 - March 23, 1942, page 1: Mrs. Hester Higgins' mention of her son and grandsons in military service.
 - June 11, 1942, page 2: Brief mention of Higgins being promoted to Major.
 - August 10, 1942, page 1: Announcement of Higgins being a prisoner of war.
 - May 17, 1943, page 1: Confirmation of Higgins being alive and a prisoner of war.
 - July 5, 1943, page 1: Mention of Major Higgins among 789 soldiers held by Japan.
 - August 13, 1942, page 1: Information from the Red Cross about writing to Higgins.
 - September 13, 1943, page 1: A card received from Major Higgins through the Red Cross.
 - December 6, 1943, page 1: Arrival of the Gripsholm and discussion about war prisoners.
 - March 30, 1944, page 1: Another card received from Major Higgins from a Japanese prison.
 - August 17, 1944, page 5: No further word received from Higgins.
 - November 6, 1944, page 1: Information on Red Cross message forms available to send to war prisoners.
 - February 1, 1945, page 2: Word received through Mrs. Arlie Higgins that Major Higgins was well.
 - February 12, 1945, page 2: Mention of General Wainwright's transfer, with no word on Major Higgins.
 - June 28, 1945, page 1: Report on the death of Major Arlie W. Higgins during a prisoner transfer.
 - August 8, 1946, page 1: Announcement of Major Higgins being honored at Kansas State College.
- The Manhattan Mercury:
 - June 25, 1945, page 1: Report of Major Arlie Higgins' death when the Arisan Maru was sunk.
- Perplexity Inquiries:
 - Information on the Bataan Death March, Japanese military prisons, General Wainwright's imprisonment, details about the Arisan Maru sinking, and Major Arlie Higgins' role in the 101st Philippine Division.

These sources were used to compile the narrative of Major Arlie W. Higgins' life, military service, and ultimate sacrifice during World War II.

MONUMENT



Maj Arlie W Higgins V

BIRTH	2 Sep 1906 Kansas, USA
DEATH	24 Oct 1944 (aged 38) At Sea
MONUMENT	Manila American Cemetery and Memorial Manila, Capital District, National Capital Region, Philippines
PLOT	Tablets of the Missing

Photo added by [Ron Rogers](#)

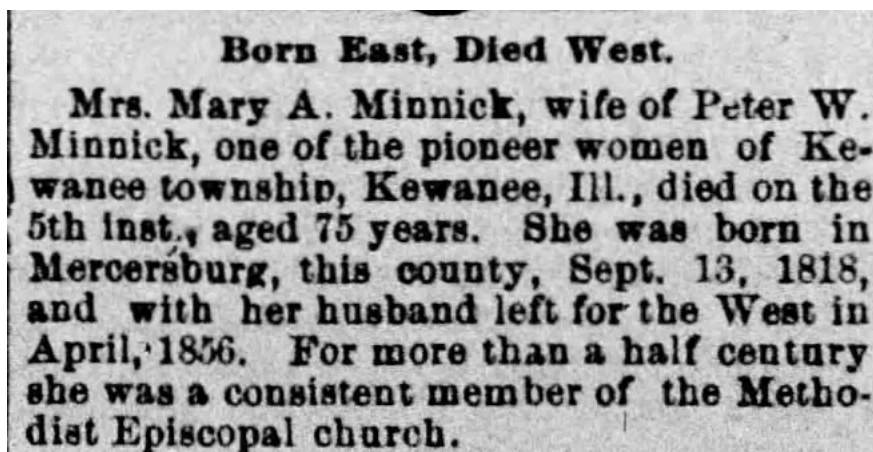
Peter and Mary Minnick

Do you ever take 'detours' in your research? While looking through my MINNICK files from Illinois, I came across a digital image of a Pennsylvania newspaper. Hoping to find Minnick information in a digitized newspaper, I started searching on Newspapers.com.

As a result of that search, I found an obituary for Mary Minnick, wife of Peter Minnick.

Born East, Died West.

Mrs. Mary A. Minnick, wife of Peter W. Minnick, one of the pioneer women of Kewanee township, Kewanee, Ill., died on the 5th inst., aged 75 years. She was born in Mercersburg, this county, Sept. 13, 1818, and with her husband left for the West in April, 1856. For more than a half century she was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church.



Since I used ChatGPT to transcribe the obituary, I decided to ask ChatGPT about Peter Minnick and his wife Mary. Below is my conversation with ChatGPT.

ChatGPT: What else can you tell me about Peter Minnick and his wife Mary?

Peter W. Minnick and his wife Mary Ann Geyer were significant figures in the early history of Kewanee, Illinois. Peter was born in Pennsylvania and worked as a merchant tailor. The couple moved to Kewanee, Illinois, in 1856, where Peter continued his trade until his death later that year on December 16, 1856. He is buried in the Old Kewanee Cemetery in Kewanee, Henry County, Illinois [9†source] [10†source] .

Mary Ann Geyer Minnick, born on September 13, 1818, in Mercersburg, Pennsylvania, moved west with Peter and continued to live in Kewanee after his death. She was a dedicated member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and lived until April 5, 1893, passing away at the age of 75. Mary Ann and Peter had several children: John W. Minnick, Wilson A. Minnick, Mary Ellen Minnick, Anna E. Minnick, Louisa C. Minnick, Carrie M. Minnick, and Peter Gilbert Minnick [9†source] [11†source] .

The Minnick family contributed to the development of Kewanee, with their children establishing their lives and families in the area. Wilson A. Minnick, for example, was a prominent figure in the local community, working as a grocer and being actively involved in politics as a Republican [11†source] .

ChatGPT: What can you tell me about Peter Minnick while he lived in Pennsylvania?

Peter W. Minnick's life in Pennsylvania before moving to Illinois was marked by his work as a merchant tailor. Here are some key details about his life during that period:

- Occupation:** Peter worked as a tailor, a common and respected profession in the 19th century. This occupation likely provided him with a stable income and a good reputation within his community. According to the 1850 U.S. Census, he was listed as a 33-year-old tailor living in Mercersburg, Montgomery Township, Franklin County, Pennsylvania [9†source] [10†source] .
- Family:** Peter was married to Mary Ann Geyer, and they had several children while living in Pennsylvania. Their children included John W. Minnick (born 1840), Wilson A. Minnick (born 1842), Mary Ellen Minnick (born 1846), Anna E. Minnick (born 1848), and Louisa C. Minnick (born 1850). The family lived together in Mercersburg, which suggests a stable family life [9†source] [11†source] .
- Community Involvement:** While specific details about Peter's involvement in the community are not extensively documented, his occupation as a tailor would have made him a well-known figure in Mercersburg. Tailors often played essential roles in their communities by providing clothing and other textile services.
- Move to Illinois:** In April 1856, Peter and his family decided to move west to Kewanee, Illinois. This move was part of a larger trend of westward migration during the mid-19th century, as many families sought new opportunities and land in the expanding United States [10†source] .

Peter Minnick's life in Pennsylvania set the stage for his family's future in Illinois, where they continued to contribute to their new community. His early death in 1856, shortly after their move, left Mary Ann to carry on his legacy in Kewanee.

ChatGPT: Can you create endnotes for the sources used?

Here are the endnotes for the sources used:

1. Peter W. Minnick's Life and Occupation:

- "Peter W. MINNICK," Heartland Genealogy Site, accessed August 8, 2024, <http://sites.rootsmagic.com/heartland/individual.php?p=6405> [9†source] [10†source]. See <http://sites.rootsmagic.com/heartland/individual.php?p=6405%E3%80%90%E2%80%A0source%E3%80%91%E3%80%9010%E2%80%A0source%E3%80%91..>

1. Family Details and Children:

- "Wilson A. MINNICK," Heartland Genealogy Site, accessed August 8, 2024, <http://sites.rootsmagic.com/heartland/individual.php?p=6407> [11†source]. See <http://sites.rootsmagic.com/heartland/individual.php?p=6407%E3%80%90%E2%80%A0source%E3%80%91..>

1. Move to Illinois and Community Involvement:

- “Peter W. MINNICK,” Heartland Genealogy Site, accessed August 8, 2024, <http://sites.rootsmagic.com/heartland/individual.php?p=6405> **【9†source】**
【10†source】. See [http://sites.rootsmagic.com/heartland/individual.php?](http://sites.rootsmagic.com/heartland/individual.php?p=6405%E3%80%90%E2%80%A0source%E3%80%91%E3%80%9010%E2%80%A0source%E3%80%91..)
[p=6405%E3%80%90%E2%80%A0source%E3%80%91%E3%80%9010%E2%80%A0source%E3%80%91..](http://sites.rootsmagic.com/heartland/individual.php?p=6405%E3%80%90%E2%80%A0source%E3%80%91%E3%80%9010%E2%80%A0source%E3%80%91..)

These endnotes consolidate the sources where information about Peter Minnick and his family was found.

Even though ChatGPT only pulled information from my old RootsMagic site, it was fun seeing what ChatGPT could tell me.

John Minnick Obituary

Do you limit your searches for an obituary to the area where the person died? If so, consider that an obituary could be found in their former home town. Typically, I search in the area where someone lived. However, while looking for another obituary, I found one for John Minnick of Kewanee, Illinois in a Pennsylvania newspaper.

Waynesboro Record (Waynesboro, PA)
7 May 1903
page 4

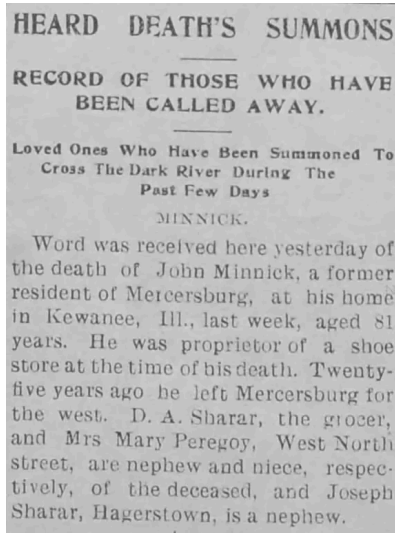
HEARD DEATH'S SUMMONS

RECORD OF THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN CALLED AWAY.

Loved Ones Who Have Been Summoned To Cross The Dark River During The Past Few Days

MINNICK.

Word was received here yesterday of the death of John Minnick, a former resident of Mercersburg, at his home in Kewanee, Ill., last week, aged 81 years. He was proprietor of a shoe store at the time of his death. Twenty-five years ago he left Mercersburg for the west. D. A. Sharar, the grocer, and Mrs. Mary Peregoy, West North Street, are nephew and niece, respectively, of the deceased, and Joseph Sharar, Hagerstown, is a nephew.

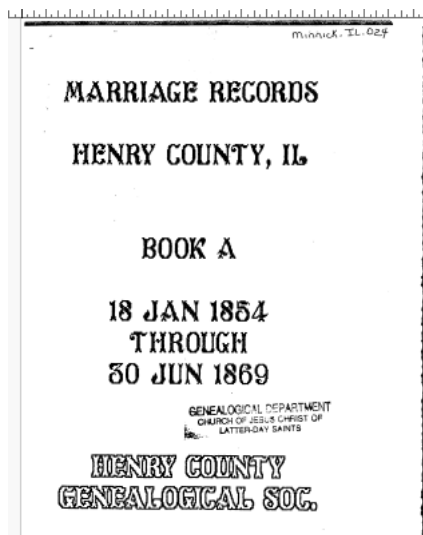


This obituary identifies a niece, Mrs. Mary Pergoy, and two nephews: D. A. and Joseph Sharar. Unfortunately, I don't know how these individuals are related to John Minnick.

Friday Find

Do you have photocopies of book pages in your genealogy files? If so, are any of them indexes to records? If they are, have you used them to locate the digitized images of those records?



Today, I came across an index of Henry County, Illinois marriage records compiled by the Henry County Genealogical Society.




My photocopy from this book includes the entries for females with the surname MINNICK.







MILLER, Sarah J.	DUNCAN, James F.	1856/08/10	72
MILLER, Sophia	SMITH, David W.	1854/02/05	4
MILLER, Sophia B.	NICHOLS, Edgar A.	1862/12/03	203
MILLIKEN, Matilda	PLESTED, Geo.	1854/06/24	56
MILLS, R.	PENKINS, Samuel	1866/04/09	47
MINNICK, Barbara A.	KENEVAL, J.P.	1851/01/10	3
MINNICK, Ella M.	TUNNICLIFF, Joe S.	1866/09/16	166
MINNICK, Emilie	MENZER, George	1858/01/01	313
MINTON, Elizabeth	GRAHAM, Jackson	1866/11/03	213
MITCHELL, Elizabeth	WOODMANSEE, James M.	1863/01/15	9
MITCHELL, Jennie E.	BLISS, Fred M.	1863/02/13	26
MITCHELL, Rebecca L.	CULE, Orric	1865/10/05	195

When this book was originally published, it provided essential information to locate a marriage record. With the date and page number from the book, one would typically write to the county office and request a photocopy of the record. In today's digital age, however, this book serves as a valuable hint to access the Henry County, Illinois marriage records available on the FamilySearch website and locate the digitized image.

Marriage register, v. A-B 1854-1877	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	1435944	Items 2- 4031862	 
			3		




Not only is Book A digitized, but it is also indexed, allowing for quick and efficient searching.












Results (32,465)

[Collection](#)
[Sex](#)
[Race](#)
[Birth](#)
[Marriage](#)
[Other](#)

Name
[George H Peister](#)
 Groom
 Illinois, County Marriages, 1810-1940




Events and Relationships
Marriage 27 September 1877
 Henry, Illinois, United States
Birth 1845
Spouses Irena Beard

Name
[William Pate](#)
 Groom
 Illinois, County Marriages, 1810-1940



Events and Relationships
Marriage 2 February 1886
 Henry, Illinois, United States
Birth 1832
Parents Thomas Lange, Kezia Pate
Spouses Elizabeth Wallis

Search

Add Ancestor Information

NAME [ALTERNATE NAME](#) [SEX](#)

First Names

Last Names

Add Life Event

ANY [BIRTH](#) [MARRIAGE](#) [RESIDE](#)

Place

Year (Range)

[Records](#) [Images](#) [Family Tree](#) [Genealogies](#) [Catalog](#) [Books](#) [Wiki](#)

Results (10)

[PREFERENCES](#) [SEARCH](#)
[Collection](#) [Sex](#) [Race](#) [Birth](#) [Marriage](#)

Name

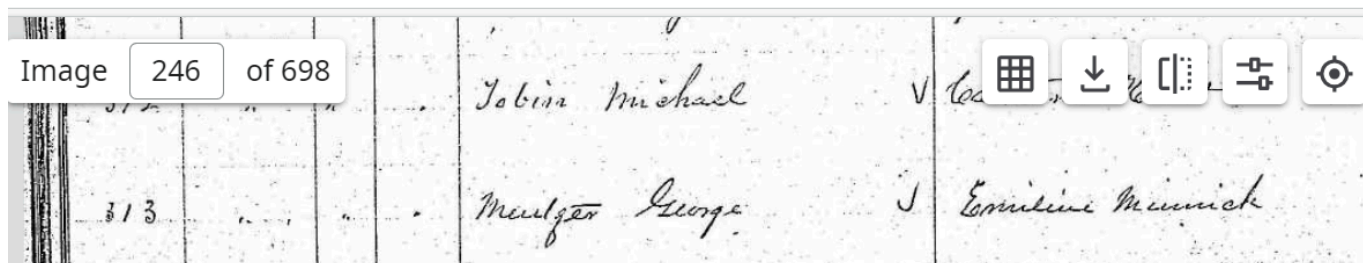
Events

Relationships

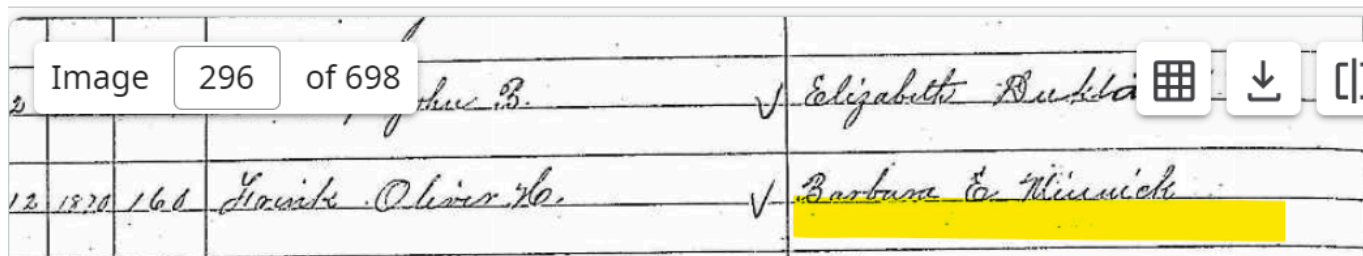
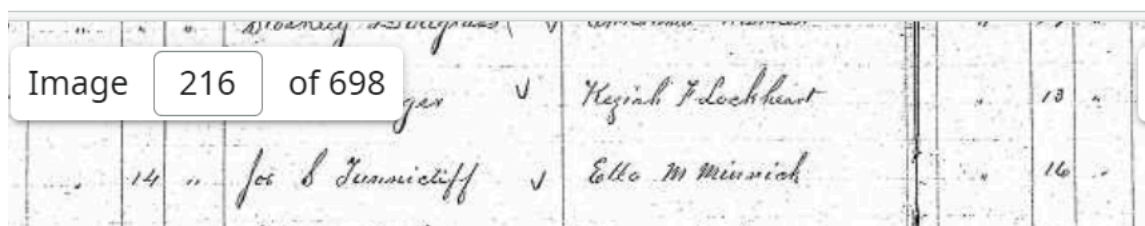
Emiline Minnick
 Bride
 Illinois, County Marriages, 1810-1940

Marriage 27 December 1867
 Henry, Illinois, United States
Spouses George Muetger

By searching the index, you can click on the camera icon to view the record's image. It's important to note that searching for the groom's surname "Mentzer" might not have yielded results, as the index used an alternate spelling.

[← Marriage Register: Henry. Marriage ...](#)
[SOURCE BOX](#)
[ATTACH TO TRE](#)


Thanks to FamilySearch's comprehensive indexing of these records, I was able to easily locate the three Minnick marriage records identified in the book indexing Henry County marriage records.

[← Marriage Register: Henry. Marriage ...](#)
[SOURCE BOX](#)
[AT](#)

[← Marriage Register: Henry. Marriage ...](#)
[SOURCE](#)


While the books published by local genealogists and societies were invaluable in my early research days, I am grateful for the accessibility and convenience that FamilySearch provides today.

Saturday Tidbits

Today's military news for Nemaha County highlights the need for three more residents to report for service. It is important to remember that this takes place in April 1941, several months before the attack on Pearl Harbor in December of that year.

County Quota for April Is Three

Dick Moore, Seneca, To Army Tuesday

Nemaha county is to furnish a draft quota of three men for the month of April, it was announced at Topeka Monday by Adjutant-General Milton R. McLean, who listed a break-down by counties to fill a state quota of 302 men.

The Nemaha draftees will report to Fort Leavenworth on April 29.

The call will be filled by three volunteers: Edward Alvin Schmits of Seneca, Vernon Allen Groff, Seneca and Nelson Garner Beard, Centralia. They are at present all the volunteers left.

Volunteer who went to Fort Leavenworth Tuesday as a replacement for an earlier Nemaha county man is Richard Moore, who had been working for V. E. Williams in the National Farm Loan office, Seneca.

Belford "Deke" Duryea, A&P employee, Seneca, is constantly left on a limb. He holds the next regular number for draft call. Volunteers keep coming in, hold back the regular numbers. Should any of the three volunteers for the April 29 quota be rejected, Duryea might be next. By the time a call for replacement could be made, however, there might be more volunteers.

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1. Courier Tribune (Seneca, Kansas) 10 April 1941, page 1 [↩](#)See page .

Calling all Genea-Musings See <https://www.geneamusings.com/>. **Fans:**

Time for some more Genealogy Fun!!

Come on, everybody, join in and accept the mission and execute it with precision.

- 1) Do you have ancestors who suffered the loss of one or both parents early in their life? Did the surviving parent remarry soon after one parent died? Was a guardian appointed for your ancestor to protect their physical or legal interests?
- 2) Tell us about one or two of your “orphaned” ancestors and how this affected their life.

To begin to answer these questions, I first had to figure out which ancestors lost a parent while young. I limited my search to grandparents thru third grandparents.

- Grandmother, Winnie Leatha Currey was 10 when her mother died
- Great grandfather, Edward G. Briles, was 10 when his father died
- Great great grandfather, Hiram M. Currey, was 7 when his mother died
- Great great grandfather, Hiram M. Currey, was likely 14 when his father disappeared from records
- Great great grandmother, Angelina Burke, was 9 when her father died
- Great great grandfather, Albert Hutchinson, was 1 when his father died
- Great great grandfather, Albert Hutchinson, was 9 when his mother died
- Great great grandmother, Julia Harding, was 6 when her mother died
- Great great grandfather, George Mentzer, was 7 when his father died
- Great great grandfather, Thurston Wells, was 11 when his father died
- Great great grandmother, Salome Crandall was 10 when her mother died
- Great great grandmother, Salome Crandall was 16 when her father died

To quickly determine whether I had any guardianship records for these ancestors, I did a 'Find Everywhere' search in my RootsMagic file for the word Guardian.

While that search revealed probate records appointing guardians for the minor children of Lewis Crandall, Salome Crandall was 20 at the time. Thus, she is not named in those records.

Find Everywhere

Find

Clear criteria

Find

Guardian

And

Find

And

Find

Clear results

Save

Print

PEOPLE

____, Margaret-25493 (edit)

Court detail: listed as the **guardian** of Sarah Bashford on a deed dated

Crandall, Lewis-1796 (edit)

Probate detail: minor children had a **guardian** appointed

Probate detail: children's **guardian** petitioned for the sale of the land

MULTIMEDIA

1852 Administrator and Guardian Bonds Van Buren County IA Lewis Crandall

Caption: 1852 Administrator and **Guardian** Bonds Van Buren County IA Lewis Crandall

1856 Guardian appointed Van Buren County IA Vol E page 451 Lewis Crandall

Caption: 1856 **Guardian** appointed Van Buren County IA Vol E page 451 Lewis Crandall

1858 Probate Guardian report sale land Van Buren County IA Vol F page 260 Lewis Crandall

Caption: 1858 Probate **Guardian** report sale land Van Buren County IA Vol F page 260 Lewis Crandall

1868 Guardian IN Warren page 1 Celia Crawford

Caption: 1868 **Guardian** IN Warren page 1 Celia Crawford

1868 Guardian IN Warren Celia Crawford

Caption: 1868 **Guardian** IN Warren Celia Crawford

The 'Find Everywhere' search did uncover a record identifying the guardian of George Mentzer. This record was for the 1849 sale of land by George's older brother, Cyrus. In the deed, Cyrus is identified as the guardian of George Mentzer. While I have the sale of the land as an event in George Mentzer's timeline, I do not have a guardian fact. Thus, without the Find Everywhere search, I would not have quickly found this information.

Find Everywhere

Find Clear criteria Clear results Save Print

Find	Guardian	Research notes: In testimony in the case of the late of Stow in the county of Middlesex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts deceased, Mentzer, late of Stow in the county of Middlesex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts deceased.
Find	And	Land-MA Middlesex County Vol 578-580 FamilySearch EE Research notes: unity of Worcester James Stratton and Hannah Stratton wife of said James in her right of Westerly Rhode Island, Rufus Mentzer of Greenwich Rhode Island and Sarah and George Mentzer minors by their guardian Cyrus Mentzer, in consideration of one hundred and sixty dollars paid by the Fitchburg Rail Road company the receipt whereof is here by acknowledged, do h
Find	And	Land-MA Middlesex County Vol 549-551 FamilySearch EE Citation: Massachusetts, Middlesex County, Deeds, Vol. 549-551, Film #439013 DGS 7441715, Cyrus Mentzer, Guardian of Rufus, Hannah A, Sarah A, and George Mentzer, Dec 1848; Vol 549; page 507; digitized images, FamilySearch www.familysearch.org : viewed online 6 J Name: 439013 DGS 7441715; viewed online 6 June 2022; Cyrus Mentzer, Guardian of Rufus, Hannah A, Sarah A, and George Mentzer; Dec 1848; Vol 549; page 507 Research notes: d book 549 page 507 page 507 (image 259) Mentzer to Maynard Know all men by these presents that I Cyrus Mentzer of Northborough in the County of Worcester Commonwealth of Massachusetts Guardian of Rufus Hannah A, Sarah A, and George Mentzer minor and children of Phillip a. Mentzer late of Stow deceased in testate by an order of the Probate Court

The death of a parent affected my ancestors in a variety of ways.

- Edward Briles' mother, Sarah, raised her two children on her own. She did have support of her husbands family since they lived near her father-in-law and brothers-in-law.
- Albert Hutchinson, who lost both of his parents before the age of 10, is shown in the 1850 census in the household of his great-aunt, Cynthia Finch.
- Hiram Currey, who lost both of his parents before the age of 15, is shown in the 1850 census in the household of his widowed aunt, Jane Currey.

For my grandmother, the loss of her mother at the age of 10 had a huge impact on her and her siblings. Because her father did not feel capable of caring for his young family, the family was split up. The two youngest, Earnest aged 7 and Alma aged 1, were placed with other families. According to my grandmother, Winnie Currey, she and her two older sisters, Mary and Myrtle, were placed in a children's home. Fortunately, the family was able to reconnect as adults. My blog post, [Orphaned in the City](https://heartlandgenealogy.org/2021/08/14/orphaned-in-the-city/) See <https://heartlandgenealogy.org/2021/08/14/orphaned-in-the-city/>., shows my quest to document these stories of my grandmother.

Thank you Randy for this challenge!

AI Graphic Generation

Do you ever find yourself taking a detour in your research?

Recently, I decided to take a break from my family history research and focus on a project for the Nemaha County Historical Society. With the society's museums set to open for the city's Oktoberfest, I'm working on special signage to highlight items in our collection that were invented in Germany.

To make sure these signs resonate with the Oktoberfest theme, I turned to [ChatGPT](https://chatgpt.com/) See <https://chatgpt.com/>. for help in creating some relevant graphics. Although I didn't save my exact prompt, ChatGPT provided several different Oktoberfest-themed designs that I can use.



Thanks ChatGPT for producing these graphics.

Purple Heart

Willard Winsor

Willard Ira Winsor's military career was one marked by dedication and sacrifice, culminating in his tragic death during World War II.

Born on July 20, 1906, in Hastings, Nebraska, Willard Winsor entered the U.S. Navy shortly after graduating from Seneca High School in Kansas in 1925. He embarked on a career that would span nearly two decades, serving with distinction as a Chief Yeoman. Over the years, Winsor served on various ships, including the USS Texas, USS Pike (SS-173), and USS Sturgeon (SS-187). His service took him to different parts of the world, including the Panama Canal Zone, where he was stationed for several years before returning to the United States.

Winsor's life took a dramatic turn during World War II. He was stationed in the Philippines during the Japanese invasion and was captured in May 1942 following the fall of Manila. He became a prisoner of war and was held in the notorious Bilibid Prison in Manila. Conditions were harsh, but Winsor reportedly remained in good health despite the dire circumstances. His resilience and leadership were evident as he was credited with saving the lives of many comrades during the defense of Corregidor, actions for which he was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star.

In October 1944, Winsor, along with approximately 1,800 other American POWs, was forced aboard the Arisan Maru, a Japanese "hell ship" used to transport prisoners under inhumane conditions. The ship, unmarked and part of a convoy heading toward Japan, was tragically torpedoed and sunk by an American submarine on October 24, 1944, in the South China Sea off the coast of China. Winsor did not survive the sinking, which resulted in one of the largest single losses of American life in a maritime disaster during the war. Only nine of the POWs aboard the Arisan Maru survived.

After the war, Winsor's heroism and ultimate sacrifice were recognized. He was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star. His daughter, Elva Frances Winsor, accepted these honors on his behalf at a special ceremony in Hiawatha, Kansas, in 1948. Winsor's name was inscribed on the Tablets of the Missing at the Manila American Cemetery and Memorial in the Philippines, a lasting tribute to his service and sacrifice.

Willard Winsor's story is one of courage, dedication, and the profound loss felt by his family and country. His life and service exemplify the highest ideals of duty and patriotism.

The above narrative was written by ChatGPT using research from newspapers, Find a Grave and Perplexity. Michael Philbrick did the newspaper research.

Here's a list of the sources used in the narrative about Willard Ira Winsor's military career:

1. **Find a Grave Memorial 91273901** – Information on Willard Ira Winsor's birth, death, and military service.
2. **Find a Grave Memorial 56778282** – Details about Winsor's service number, burial, and awards including the Bronze Star and Purple Heart.
3. **U.S. Navy Casualties Books, 1776-1941** – Records of Willard Ira Winsor as a prisoner of war.
4. **Hiawatha Daily World (Hiawatha, Kansas), 16 February 1948** – Details of the Bronze Star Medal posthumously awarded to Winsor and his heroic actions during the Battle of Corregidor.
5. **The Courier Tribune (Seneca, Kansas), 12 February 1948** – Information on the posthumous awards presented to Winsor's daughter, Elva Winsor.
6. **Anaheim Bulletin (Anaheim, California), 14 May 1943** – Information on Winsor being held as a prisoner of war by the Japanese.
7. **Beatrice Daily Sun (Beatrice, Nebraska), 5 July 1945** – Report of Winsor's death following the sinking of a Japanese prisoner of war ship.
8. **The Long Beach Sun (Long Beach, California), 24 June 1942** – Report of Winsor being listed as missing and presumed a prisoner of war.
9. **The Fairfield Auxiliary (Fairfield, Nebraska), 12 April 1945** – Confirmation of Winsor's status as a prisoner in Japan.
10. **The Fairfield Auxiliary (Fairfield, Nebraska), 20 December 1945** – Information on Winsor being posthumously awarded the Purple Heart.
11. **Wrecksite.eu** – Details on the sinking of the Arisan Maru, the ship carrying POWs, including Winsor.
12. **The Courier Tribune (Seneca, Kansas), 28 June 1945** – Official Navy Department report on the death of Willard Winsor due to the sinking of the Japanese ship.
13. **Perplexity AI** – Summarized historical data on the sinking of the Arisan Maru.

These sources collectively provide a comprehensive view of Willard Winsor's military career, his capture, and his tragic death during World War II.



Photo added by [William Fischer, Jr.](#)

Willard Ira Winsor

BIRTH	20 Jul 1906 Hastings, Adams County, Nebraska, USA
DEATH	24 Oct 1944 (aged 38) At Sea
BURIAL	Mount Hope Cemetery Hiawatha, Brown County, Kansas, USA



Add Photos



Request Photo

Citizenship Records

Have you located citizenship records for your ancestor?

ave you located citizenship records for your ancestor?

In my recent research, I've been trying to document a Nemaha county family's trek from Germany to Kansas. As part of that research, I stumbled upon the court document granting citizenship.

Quite a few years ago, I indexed some of the Nemaha county's naturalization records. The [index of the 1859-1871](https://sites.google.com/site/nemcohis/nemaha-county-genealogy/resources/naturalization-records-1859-to-1871) records indicated that the subject of my search, Andrew Reinecke, was naturalized in 1870.

Quirk	James	28 April 1860	10	Ireland	30
Reckowsky	Adolph	27 July 1868	38	Prusia	
Reinecke	Andrew	4 Nov 1870	84	Prusia	29
Rowlants	William	16 June 1859	5	Great Britain	36

While that exact book does not appear to be available on the FamilySearch site, there is an index available.

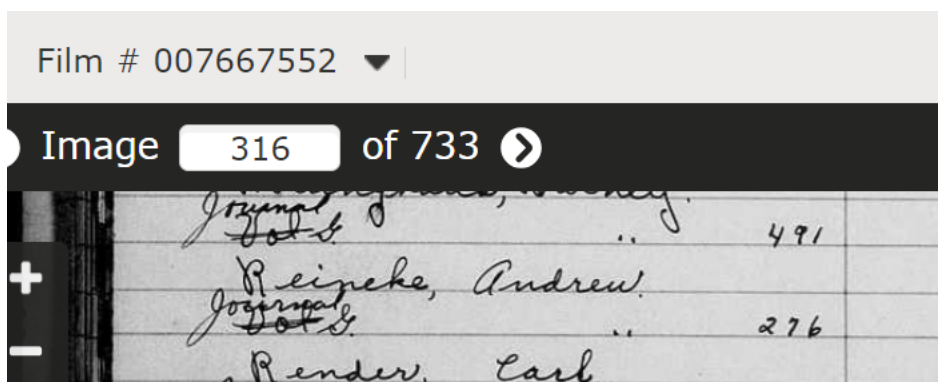
Locality Subjects

[United States, Kansas, Nemaha - Naturalization and citizenship](#)

Film/Digital Notes

Note	Location	Collection/Shelf	Film	Image Group Number (DGS)	Format
Index for naturalization ca. 1859-1935 (Gives name, volume number or letter, and page number. Covers journals A-K and vol. 1-5. Journals indexed are the District Court journals. To find these journals, check locality catalog under: Kansas, Nemaha - Court Records.)	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	1941258 Item 3	7667552	

Using the Index for Naturalization, I found Andrew Reinecke.



Thanks to FamilySearch's description for this index, I knew that I needed to look in the court records for Nemaha county to locate the journals.

Journals, 1861-1919

Authors: [Kansas, District Court \(Nemaha County\)](#) (Main Author) [Add to Print List](#)

Format: Manuscript/Manuscript on Film

Language: English

Publication: Salt Lake City, Utah : Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1993

Physical: on 7 microfilm reels ; 35 mm.

Notes
Microfilm of original records at the Nemaha County Courthouse in Seneca, Kansas.

Vols. A-B have separate indexes. All other volumes are individually indexed.

[View this catalog record in WorldCat for other possible copy locations](#)

Subjects
Locality Subjects
[United States, Kansas, Nemaha - Court records](#)

Film/Digital Notes

Note	Location	Collection/Shelf	Film	Image Group Number (DGS)	Format
Index to v. A Journals, v. A 1861-1871 Index to v. B Journals, v. B 1871-1875 v. C (p. 1-345) 1875-1877	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	1888050	8421367	
Journals, v. C (p. 346-end) 1877-1878 v. D-E 1878-1886	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	1888051	8199751	
Journals, v. F-G 1886-1891 v. H (p. 1-313) 1891-1893	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	1888503	8199752	

With the information from the index, I located page 276 in Journal G.

Several years ago, I had the opportunity to index some of Nemaha County's naturalization records. The index for the 1859-1871 records revealed that the person I was researching, Andrew Reinecke, was naturalized in 1870.

Quirk	James	28 April 1860	10	Ireland	30
Reckowsky	Adolph	27 July 1868	38	Prisia	
Reinecke	Andrew	4 Nov 1870	84	Prusia	29
Rowlants	William	16 June 1859	5	Great Britain	36

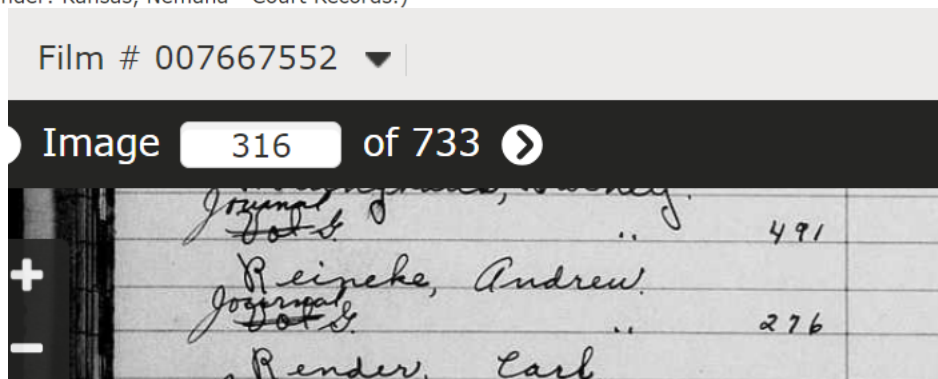
Although the exact record book isn't available on the FamilySearch site, there is an index that I used to find Andrew Reinecke.

Locality Subjects

[United States, Kansas, Nemaha - Naturalization and citizenship](#)

Film/Digital Notes

Note	Location	Collection/Shelf	Film	Image Group Number (DGS)	Format
Index for naturalization ca. 1859-1935 (Gives name, volume number or letter, and page number. Covers journals A-K and vol. 1-5. Journals indexed are the District Court journals. To find these journals, check locality catalog under: Kansas, Nemaha - Court Records.)	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	1941258 Item 3	7667552	



Thanks to FamilySearch's detailed description of the index, I knew I needed to search through the Nemaha County court records to locate the appropriate journals.

Journals, 1861-1919

Authors:

Kansas, District Court (Nemaha County) (Main Author)

Format:

Manuscript/Manuscript on Film

Language:

English

Publication:

Salt Lake City, Utah : Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1993

Physical:

on 7 microfilm reels ; 35 mm.

Add to Print List

Notes

Microfilm of original records at the Nemaha County Courthouse in Seneca, Kansas.

Vols. A-B have separate indexes. All other volumes are individually indexed.

View this catalog record in WorldCat for other possible copy locations

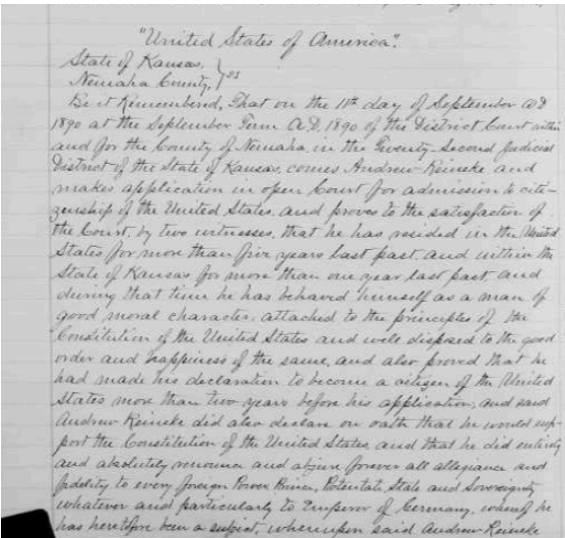
Subjects

Locality Subjects

United States, Kansas, Nemaha - Court records

Film/Digital Notes					
Note	Location	Collection/Shelf	Film	Image Group Number (DGS)	Format
Index to v. A Journals, v. A 1861-1871 Index to v. B Journals, v. B 1871-1875 v. C (p. 1-345) 1875-1877	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	1888050	8421367	Microfilm
Journals, v. C (p. 346-end) 1877-1878 v. D-E 1878-1886	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	1888051	8199751	Microfilm
Journals, v. F-G 1886-1891 v. H (p. 1-313) 1891-1893	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	1888503	8199752	Microfilm

With the information from the index, I was able to find page 276 in Journal G.



United States of America

State of Kansas,
Nemaha County, SS:

Be it remembered, That on the 11th day of September A.D. 1890 at the September Term A.D. 1890 of the District Court within and for the County of Nemaha, in the twenty-second Judicial District of the State of Kansas, comes Andrew Reineke and makes application in open Court for admission to citizenship of the United States, and proves to the satisfaction of the Court, by two witnesses, that he has resided in the United States for more than five years last past and within the State of Kansas for more than one year last past and during that time he has behaved himself as a man of good moral character attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States and well disposed to the good order and happiness of the same, and also proved that he had made his declaration to beomce a citizen of the United States more than two years before his application, and said Andrew Rewineke did also declare on oath that he would support the Constitution of the United States and that he did entirely and absolutely renounce and abjure forever all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign Prince, Potentate, State and Sovereignty whatever and particularly to Emperor of Germany,whereof he has heretofore been a subject. whereupon said Andrew Reineke
page 277
was admitted as a citizen of the United States.

Crawford Find

Did you catch [Elizabeth Shown Mills' Facebook post](#)? See reminder: TODAY IS MATCH DAY. This is a day to financially support a wide variety of needs in Nemaha county, Kansas. No matter how small your donation might be, it all adds up to making Nemaha county a better place to live. Please think about donating today. In person donations may be made at the Seneca Free Library until 6 pm - or you can donate online with a credit card until midnight.. about her success using FamilySearch's experimental labs to locate deeds and wills? Her experience provides compelling evidence of the effectiveness of this new tool!

While I haven't uncovered 43 documents for a single individual like Mills, I am using the tool to locate records for everyone with the Crawford surname in Montgomery, Botetourt, and eventually Augusta counties in Virginia, prior to 1820. My goal is to use these documents to distinguish between the various Crawford lines and identify my ancestral lineage. Although I could rely on the traditional grantor/grantee indexes, the experimental labs index offers a faster alternative and helps me uncover records that mention a Crawford, even in passing.

Today's discovery is an 1831 deed involving two Deyerle families. Based on the information in the FamilySearch tree, I believe the individuals mentioned in the deed are from the John Bowman Deyerle Sr. family and the Abram Deyerle family.

- John Bowman Deyerle Sr (1772-1871) LRNN-L9P
 - Jane [Doyerle] widow (1780-1842) LB9Q-4D6]
 - Peter Doyerle (1796-?) [L423-XFH]
 - Rebecca Doyerle (1800-1875) [LC8Y-3HP]
 - [Crockett] Doyerley (1796-1848) [L423-NZG] & Mary his wife,
 - Catherine Doyerle, widow of
 - [Buchanan] Doyerle decd
 - John Doyerle (1804-?) [KCDK-WYG] and Elizabeth his wife,
 - John Chapman and Nancy (1813-1880) [LC8Y-3MY] his wife
 - Walter Doyerle (1817-?) [LC8Y-3NZ]
- Abram Deyerle (1777-1831) LWVQ-7WG
 - Sally Doyerly, (1784-1859) [2MB1-74N] widow of Abram Doyerle dec'd,
 - [Salome] Duckwiler [LZPF-991] wife of Isaac Duckwiler,
 - Eliza Crawford (1803-1850) [L5DC-NVJ] wife of James Crawford (1802-1871) [LZ88-VZ9]
 - Rebecca Hill (1803-?) [KPSW-MF6] wife of James [Hille]
 - Sally Doyerle (1812-1849) [LC33-F7V]
 - Thomas Jefferson Doyerle (1811-1872) [KPSR-G53]
 - Alexander Doyerle (1812-1870) [KPSW-MQ6]
 - [Regany] Doyerle (1803-?) [M7FM-MKH]
 - Abram Doyerle — IS THIS PETER?
 - Jackson Doyerle (1823-1907) [LCCK-D5Y],

The names listed in the deed align with the structure of these two families, so I have attached the document to the profiles of John Bowman Deyerle Sr., Abram Deyerle, their widows, and the identified children. Given the deed's date of 1831, it's clear that John Bowman Deyerle Sr. could not have passed away in 1871 as currently listed. Hopefully, relatives of the Deyerle families will notice this discrepancy and update his death date accordingly.

Interestingly, this Deyerle deed also identifies a Crawford. It reveals that Eliza Deyerle's husband was James Crawford. According to the FamilySearch tree, James Crawford is the son of James Crawford and Jean Poage. Tracing the Crawford line further back, it appears that Eliza Deyerle's husband, James, descends from the David Crawford lineage, which immigrated to early Virginia.

Below is the transcription of the Deyerle deed.

Montgomery County VA

Deed Book L, 1832-1835
DGS 7645571, item 2

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This Indenture made this [14th] day of October in the year of our Lord 1831 between Jane [Doyerle] widow of John B Doyerly and Peter Doyerle, Rebecca Doyerle, [Crockett] Doyerley & Mary his wife, Catherine Doyerle, widow of [Buchanan] Doyerle decd John Doyerle and Elizabeth his wife, John Chapman and Nancy his wife and Walter Doyerle, children and heirs at law of John B. Doyerle decd of the one part and Sally Doyerly, widow of Abram Doyerle dec'd, [Salome] [Duckwiler] wife of Isaac Duckwiler, Eliza Crawford wife of James Crawford, Rebecca Hill wife of James [Hille] Sally Doyerle, Thomas Jefferson Doyerle, Alexander Doyerle, [Regany] Doyerle, Abram Doyerle and Jackson Doyerle, children and heirs at law of Abram Doyerle decd who died intestate of the other part, all of Montgomery County and State of Virginia witnesseth that whereas Peter Doyerle decd by his last will and testament which is duly admitted to record in the county court of Montgomery after divising certain tract of land to his three sons directed that after the death of his wife the home tract of land should be sold and the proceeds of the sale were to be divided equally among all his children mentioned in said will. And whereas the said John B. Deyerle decd was a son of the said Peter Deyerle decd and entitled under his father's will to a child's share of whatever the said home tract of land, directed to be sold might sell for, which would be one sixth part and whereas the said John B. Deyerle decd in his life time, and in the lifetime of said Abram Doyeller decd did sell to him the said Abram Deyerle decd all the interest that would accrue to him under that clause of his father's will which directed his home tract of land to be sold, for the sum of six hundred dollars which was paid to him by the said Abram Deyerle in his life time, but the said

John B. Deyerle decd has not made a conveyance of his interest to the said Abram Dayerle -Now for and in consideration of the premises the said Jane Deyerle widow of the said John B. Deyerle decd Peter Deyerle, Rebecca Deyerle Crockett Deyerle & Mary his wife , Catharine Deyerle widow of Bowman Deyerle decd John Deyerle and Elizabeth his wife , John Chapman and Nancy his wife and Walter Deyerle children and heirs at law of John B. Deyerle decd doth by these presents , give , grant bargain sell , alien and confirm , unto the said Sally Deyerle widow of Abram Deyerle decd Salome Duckwiler wife of Isaac Duckwiler, Eliza Crawford wife of James Crawford, Rebecca Hill wife of James Hill, Sally Deyerle, Thomas Jefferson Deyerle, Alexander Deyerle, Regany Deyerle, Abram Deyerle and Jackson Deyerle children and heirs of Abram Deyerle dec'd all the right title and interest or clam that hath or might in any manner accrue or be coming to them by virtue of the will of Peter Deyerle decd directing his home tract of land to be sold and the money divided among his children and whether that interest be land itself or a clam to receive money for which the land may be sold, the same is hereby conveyed in as full and as ample a manner as the same is or might or thereafter may be vested in the said Jane Deyerle, widow of John B. Deyerle, Dec'd Peter Deyerle Rebecca Deyerle, Crockett Deyerle and Mary his wife, Catharine Deyerle widow of Bowman Deyerle decd John Deyerle and Elizabeth his wife , John Chapman and Nancy his , wife , and Walter Deyerle children and heirs of John B. Deyerle decd to have and to hold the same , unto the said Sally Deyerle widow of Abram Deyerle Deyerle decd Salome Duckwiler Duckwiler wife of Isaac Duckwiler, Eliza Crawford wife of James Crawford, Rebecca Hill wife of James Hill, Sally Deyerle , Thomas Jefferson Deyerle, Alexander Deyerle, Regany Deyerly, Abram Deyerle and Jackson Deyerle children and heirs of Abram Deyerle decd and their heirs and assigns forever . In testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals , the day and year above written .

Jane (her mark) Deyerele

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Peter Deyerle
Rebecca Deyerle
Cambell Deyerle
Mary Deyerle
Catherine M Deyerle
John Deyerle
Elizabeth Deyerle
Pater [F] Chapman
Nancy Chapman

Montgomery county SS

We Joseph King and John Pepper Justices of the peace in the county aforesaid in the state of Virginia do hereby certify that Peter Deyerle, Crockett Deyerle, John Deyerly and Walter Deyerle parties to a certain deed bearing date on the 16th day of October 1831 and [hereto named] personally appeared before us in our county aforesaid and acknowledged the same to be her act and deed and desires us to certify the said acknowledgment to the clerk of the county court of Montgomery in order that the said deed may be recorded. Given under our hands and seals this 14th day of October 1831
Joseph King
JPepper

Montgomery County

We Joseph King and John Pepper Justices of the peace in the county aforesaid in the state of Virginia do hereby certify that Jane Dyeerly, the widow of John B. Deyerle and Elizabeth Deyerly, the wife of John Deyerle, parties to a certain deed bearing date on the 14th day of October 1831 and hereunto annexed, personally appeared before us in our county aforesaid being examined by us privily and apart from their husbands and having the deed aforesaid fully explained to them, they the said Jane Deyerle, Mary Deyerle, Mary Deyerle, Rebecca Deyerle, Catharine Deyerle and Elizabeth Deyerle acknowledged the same to be thier acts and deeds and that they had willingly signed, sealed and delivered the same and that they wished not to retract it. Given under our hands & seals this 14th day of October 1831.
Joseph King
J Pepper

Montgomery County

We Henry Edmundson and John Pepper Justices of the peace in the County aforesaid in the State of Virginia do hereby certify that John S Chapman, party to a certain deed bearing date on the 14th day of October lot and hereto annexed , personally appeared before us in the County aforesaid and acknowledged the same to be his act and deed and desired us to certify the said acknowledgement to the Clerk of the county court of Montgomery in order that the said deed may be recorded . Given under our hands and seals this 9th day of March 1831 .
Hy Edmundson ®
JPepper ®

Montgomery County

We Henry Edmundson and John Pepper Justices of the peace in the county aforesaid in the state of Virginia do hereby certify that John S. Chapman a party to a certain deed bearing date on the 14th day of October 1831 and hereto annexed personally appeared before us in our county aforesaid and acknowledged the same to be his act and deed and desired us to certify the said acknowledgment to the Clerk of the county court of Montgomery in order that the

said deed may be recorded. Given under our hands and seals this 9th day of March 1831
 Hy Edmundson
 JPepper

Montgomery County SS

We Henry Edmundson and John Pepper justices of thepeace in the county
 aforesaid in the State of Virginid do hereby certify that Nancy Chapman the wif eof John S
 Chapman, a party to a certain deed bearing date on the 14th day of October 81 31 and here
 unto annexed personally appeared before us in our county aforesaid and being examined
 by us privily and apart from her husband and having the deed aforesaid fully ex
 plained to her she the said Nancy Chapman acknowledged the same to be her act and
 deed and declared that she had willingly signed sealed and delivered the same and that
 she wished not to retract it. Given under our hands and seals this 9th day of March 1833
 Hy Edmundson
 JPepper

In the Clerk's office of Montgomery County Court the 1st day of October 1833 .

This deed of bargain and sale from Jane Deyerle widow and and relict of John B.

Deyerle decd Peter Deyerle , Rebecca Deyerle , Crockett Deyerle and Mary his wife CatharineDeyerle , widow of Bowman Deyerle dec ' d John Deyerle and
 Elizabeth his wife and John

Chapman and Nancy his wife to Sally Deyerle widow of Abram Deyerle decd Salome

Duckwiler wife of Isaac Duckwiler , Elizabeth Crawford wife of James Crawford

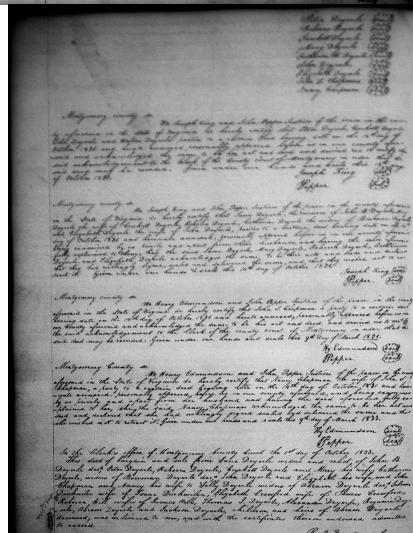
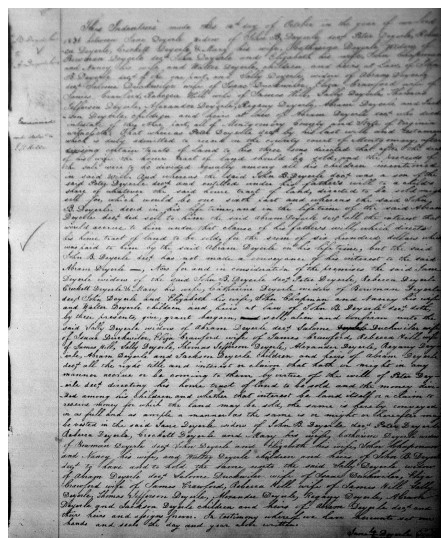
Rebecca Hill wife of James Hill, Thomas J. Deyerle, Alexander Deyerle, Regania Dey

erle, Abram Deyerle and Jackson Deyerle, children and heirs of Abram Deyerle

deceased, was delivered to me , and with the certificates thereon endorsed admitted

to record .

R. D. Montague . C.



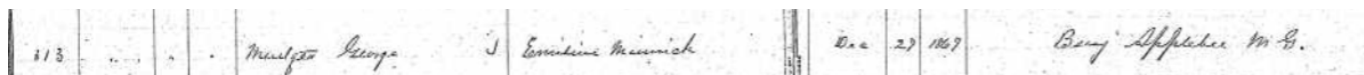
Friday Find

Today's discovery is the marriage license for George Mentzer and Emaline Minnick.

To verify the record, I turned to FamilySearch, which offers extensive access to many such documents. I located George Mentzer in the index for Henry County, Illinois marriage records [[film 7731360, image 620](#)] See <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C9BY-J9VN-9?i=619&cat=223652..> The actual licenses from Henry County's Book A are available on film #4031862.

INDEX TO MARRIAGES—HENRY COUNTY						
MALE	GIVEN NAME		FEMALE	DATE OF MARRIAGE		
	AS GIVEN	USUAL NAME		MO.	DAY	YEAR
Mendes	Lorenas		Mary Rose	Nov	29	1913
Mentzer	George		Emaline Minnick	Jan	1	1868
Mentzenberg	Herman F.		Hsieh Ida Buchler	Apr	14	1920

The licenses from Henry County's Book A are available on film #[4031862](#) See <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:939J-TL3W-JT?i=245&cc=1803970&cat=223652..>



Back in 1983, I used the information from these records to request further details from the county, and I received a copy of the "Return of Marriage" from the county clerk. Interestingly, despite the availability of many records online today, I have yet to find this particular document in any digital format.

The People of the State of Illinois
 To any person authorized to solemnize Marriage
 Greeting:
 You are hereby authorized to celebrate & certify
 the Rites of Marriage of
 George Mentzer
 Emaline Minnick
 Now of this County According to the
 Usual Custom and Laws of the State of Illinois
 Witness Daniel Bonar Clerk of the County Court in and for the County
 of Henry and the Seal of said Court hereto affixed at Cambridge, this
 27 day of Dec 1868
 J D Bonar Clerk
 State of Illinois, Henry County, S.S.
 I hereby certify that on the first day of January AD 1868 I joined
 in the Holy State of Matrimony George Mentzer and Miss Emaline Minnick
 according to the Custom and Laws of the State of Illinois
 Given under my hand and seal this 1st day of January AD 1868
 Benj Applebee
 Pastor of ME Church
 Kewanee Ills



Saturday Tidbits

1941 Military News

START SCHOOL FOR DEFENSE

AT THE CCC CAMP

Great Demand for Course
Results in Study After
Regular Work

Co. 1797 CCC, Seneca which has long prepared youths so that army life would not be an abrupt step, this week joined the more formal national program for defense schooling by setting up a special defense course in machine shop work.

The first class was held Tuesday night, following approval of the camp's arrangement for the school. Mr. Wilson, state director of vocational education, was at the camp Monday.

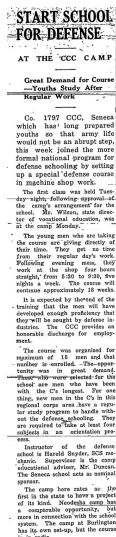
The young men who are taking the course are giving directly of their time. They get no time from their regular day's work. Following evening mess, they work at the shop four hours straight, from 5:30 to 9:30, five nights a week. The course will continue approximately 18 weeks.

It is expected by the end of the training that the men will have developed enough proficiency that they will be sought by defense industries. The CCC provides an honorable discharge for employment.

The course was organized for a maximum of 15 men and that number is enrolled. The opportunity was in great demand. Those who were selected for the school are men who have been with the C's longest. For one thing, new men in the C's in this regular corps area have a regular study program to handle without the defense schooling. They are required to take at least four subjects in an orientation process.

Instructor of the defense school is Harold Snyder, SCS mechanic. Supervisor is the camp educational adviser, Mr. Duncan. The Seneca school acts as nominal sponsor.

The camp here rates as the first in the state to have a project of its kind. Neodesha camp has a comparable opportunity, but the course is in radio. ¹See page 1 for more in connection with the school system. The camp at Burlington has its own set-up, but the course is in radio.



1. Courier Tribune (Seneca, KS) 17 April 1941, page 1. ¹See page 1.